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POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITY.

IN the grave position in which the nation now stands, with depressed trade, increasing debt, and the burden of impossible undertakings, it is high time that we returned to healthier and more old-fashioned notions of political responsibility than those too generally prevalent. Grief and indignation have been mingled in the public feeling excited by the terrible turn events have taken in Afghanistan. But we are told on many hands that indignation has no place, except as against the treacherous barbarians to whose murderous passions our countrymen were exposed with a nominal escort by the spirited policy of our Government. It is insisted that for the present no duty can be considered, save that of strengthening the hands of the same Government in its Christian demand of blood for blood, and in its valiant complication of our difficulties by pushing a baffled policy to the bitter end. Above all we are warned that to make political capital out of national calamity is mean, dastardly, and a disgrace to English patriotism. With the last warning we have much sympathy, and as we never thought much of any political capital except sound principles, we have small temptation to run counter to it. We heartily agree that any exhibition of party spite under the shadow of common disaster is unmanly and contemptible. But does it follow that we are to keep grim silence while we are being gallantly driven into an abyss of moral and financial deficit? Not at all. The real inference is that the time is too solemn for mere party intrigue, for sectional squabbles, for personal ambition of place and power, but that all who believe that righteousness exalteth a nation should use all constitutional means in their hands to stop the sensational gambling now substituted for high politics, and to find some way of infusing into our rulers a graver sense of responsibility for the enormous and world-wide interests entrusted to their charge. Yet how is this to be done, if Ministerial responsibility is to be an empty phrase, and if the obstinate authors of steadfastly predicted ruin are to be petted and patted, and encouraged to try again?

Mr. Grant Duff has decided ideas on this subject, and he expressed them, in language undoubtedly strong, at Elgin last week. We will say at once that we regret some expressions used by him, if they are correctly reported. Experience shows that good men will sometimes advocate a vile policy. A man who would gently capture a moth bent on suicide and put it out into the safety of darkness will yet attract a nation to ruin by the glare of

military glory. Hence, it is not merely a rule of conventional politeness, but sound common-sense which dictates that, in condemning a policy, we should not use language which might seem to identify it with the personal character of its author. Whether Mr. Grant Duff overstepped this rule in speaking of Lord Salisbury we shall not presume to judge. But he did a public service in insisting upon bringing home the Afghan disaster to its real author. "It was on Lord Salisbury alone," he said, "if on any man in the world, that the responsibility rested of all that had happened. The blood that had been shed had been as really shed by him as if he had slain with his own hand the unhappy men who had been massacred. His obstinate, wicked folly had been their death-warrant." Provided it be clearly understood that Lord Salisbury is quite as incapable of doing murder with his own hands as is Mr. Grant Duff, and that the wickedness consists in perverse self-confidence, these assertions are literally true, and it is well they should be made. A man cannot fly in the face of all experience and then expect only commiseration on the predicted misery he accomplishes. Nor can a man's motives, however patriotic they may seem to him, excuse him. Every one is bound to take the guidance of facts and experience, unless he has some new light which is a self-evident revelation. But if he will follow such a light, he does it at his peril. If events justify him, he proves himself a seer. If they do not, he stands convicted of self-confident folly; and interests, compared with which personal vanity is the mere snuff of a candle, demand that the plain truth should be spoken.

We cannot help thinking that if Mr. Grant Duff's doctrine of the nature of political responsibility were more prevalent, statesmen would think more than Mr. Gladstone's "once, and twice, and thrice" before they advised a war. It quickens a man's blood, and gives a sense of power almost more than human, to marshal the tramp of soldiers and to carve out scientific frontiers, from the safer end of ten thousand miles of telegraphic wire. But if the Minister in his study could realise that he was consigning thousands of men to death as certainly as though he were ordering their execution, we venture to think that he would try some other means or change his policy. Somehow or other, whether it be through the habit of repeating creeds which no one is expected to believe, or through the political enslavement of a Church that, from an altar of drums, blesses the standards of wholesale slaughter, or through the fierce selfish temper engendered by vanished years of prosperity, we have almost lost the sense of political responsibility. Priests discourse of Naboth's vineyard, and then pray Elijah's God to bless our arms in filching coveted valleys and passes from owners done to death by our ambition. Pious congregations, Jingoes and Foreign Secretaries amongst them, listen with well-assumed reverence to the tenth commandment, and pray, with sickening hypocrisy, "Lord, have mercy upon us and incline our hearts to keep this law," while all the time they are craving with insatiate greed for mountains and jungles to which they have not a tittle more right in the sight of heaven than Ahab to the land of his helpless neighbour. Preachers sometimes echo the cry, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" But that is a faithless question now; and is answered by the tremendous recoil of national crimes upon the heads of their perpetrators and abettors.

The question rather should be—Where is the spirit of Elijah, that dares to stand alone against crowned robbery and the howling prophets of a false God, created after the presumption of national arrogance? Alas! where?

HOME RULE FOR THE CHURCH.

IRISH agitators are not alone in their demands for Home Rule. A similar cry has recently been raised within the Established Church. It is of course nothing new that ecclesiastics should desire the patronage of the State, together with complete independence of its control. That has been their demand ever since the time of Constantine. But the proposals recently made present the claim in a somewhat modified form. From modern English Churchmen we do not hear the proud and candid assertion of empire over men's consciences. Such an assertion is felt to be more suitable to a world-wide organisation, whose reminiscences of power are at least more ancient, and whose claim to catholicity is at any rate less ridiculous. In England, except from a few eccentric if chivalrous priests, archdeacons, and others, we hear no proposals for the revival of ancient discipline, for which a forlorn hope has been monotonously repeated in every edition of the Prayer-book, for more than two hundred years. Few, indeed, are they who are bold enough to ask that any Church Assembly representative or official, should be allowed to decide what is the meaning of any formulary or creed, much less to alter it. Even Convocation, in its legitimate pride at the unexpected continuation of its futile existence, has not ventured to suggest that it should have any decisive voice in regard to doctrines or spiritual truths, though it does humbly conceive that it might be allowed to alter the cut of a garment or to say whether the back or front of a clergyman should be presented to his congregation, provided always that Parliament gives a tacit consent. But there are Churchmen who regard Convocation as scarcely fitted even for such duties as these, and who are fully alive to the fact that the development of religious life and voluntary organisation within the Church demand modes of self-government better adapted to local needs, and to the spirit of the age, than Convocation can possibly afford.

In a speech recently delivered on the occasion of the consecration of a church in Yorkshire, Mr. Childers gave free expression to this growing conviction of earnest-minded Churchmen. And what he said simply amounted to this—that the Episcopal Church, as an active and important denomination, requires a very different organisation from that which was satisfactory enough when it was contented to be simply a branch of the national Civil Service. Mr. Childers, and those who think with him, would probably repudiate this mode of stating their views. Nevertheless, that is just what their argument amounts to. The truth is that in these rapidly-changing times ambiguity of thought often arises from the persistence of language long after the facts, or the institutions, to which it refers have wholly changed their character. We still talk of "the Church of England." We are obliged to do so by the forms of law. But by the phrase we may mean either of two things. We may mean the nation in its ecclesiastical, as distinguished from its political, social, or commercial character; or else we may mean the body of Christians who accept the creeds and formularies of the Prayer-book, together with the

hierarchical Church Government remodelled at the Reformation, as their interpretation and embodiment of the faith once delivered to the saints. These two meanings were once substantially coextensive. But it is notorious that they are no longer so. Yet inferences drawn from one sense of the phrase are often, and most unfairly, applied to the other. Mr. Childers was not free from this ambiguity of language, and it betrayed him into gross injustice. For, in referring to arguments against the reforms he desired, he said, "Others say if you touch the Church of England at all we shall not be able to damage her in the particular way we desire, because you will have put her into order." Now, it is obvious that here Mr. Childers uses the phrase "Church of England" in its legal sense; for it is only in this sense that advocates of disestablishment have anything to do with it. But he makes use of it to charge us with uncharitable feelings towards the Church of England in the more modern and real sense of the phrase, that of a denomination of English Christians. As it is well known that some of the ablest political advocates of disestablishment are themselves Churchmen, and that an increasing number of clergymen are, for their own reasons, coming over to the same side, such an accusation scarcely needs notice, except as an illustration of the evil wrought by ambiguous phrases.

But there are more practical evils than this. Mr. Childers, using the name "Church of England" in its legal sense, naturally described that Church as "a great branch of the Civil Service." And he observed that in no other branch of the Civil Service would so scandalously unjust a distribution of stipends be tolerated. But then, taking up the other meaning of the phrase, he argued that some means should be provided by which the Church could relieve itself of such abuses without troubling Parliament on the matter. Is there not some strange confusion here? What would be thought if Custom House officers, for instance, or the staff of the Education Department were to propose that a private organisation of their own should rearrange the system of salaries without troubling the Ministry of the time on the subject? And equally ridiculous is the suggestion that the Church of England, as a branch of the Civil Service, should be allowed to do anything of the kind. But then in making the suggestion Mr. Childers was thinking of the Church in a very different sense—that of a denomination of Christians who sorely need more freedom of action. Again, the unreasonable claim made for Episcopalians, that they should enjoy national endowment and legal establishment, and yet have all the freedom of a self-governing community, would be felt at once by every reasonable man to be monstrous, were it not for the delusive glamour of the old associations of the name, "Church of England." Even while making such a claim for themselves, on the ground that the national Parliament is no longer an Episcopalian body, Church people assume that they have some special right to consideration not possessed by Wesleyans, or Independents, or by all Nonconformists combined. And the only ground for this is that they suppose themselves to be specially identified with the nation. So they are, in a certain sense, historically. But the practical teaching of statistics is very different. Home rule for the Church by all means; and for all sections of it. But on equal terms, friends. Let the endowments go to the Civil Service of the nation. And let the Episcopal denomination gain, like its sister churches, the privileges of self-sacrifice and freedom.

THE AFGHAN PROBLEM.

THE news of another week has tended to increase the general anxiety as to the ultimate results of the Cabul massacre. The mutinous regiments who rose against the English Envoy and his escort seem to have given general expression to the feeling of their countrymen. At least many of the tribes which compose that heterogeneous nation have given in their adhesion to the movement against British

protection, and there is strong reason to suspect that the Ameer has been carried away by the current. The worst construction must be put upon the little authentic news that has been allowed to come through, and we may conclude that if Yakoob Khan had been staunch to the Treaty of Gandamak, or at least "master of the situation," we should by this time have been pretty accurately informed of the course of events. From whatever side the question is viewed it is one of the greatest gravity for the English people in general, and for the English Government in particular.

In the first place, we now know, what was heretofore matter of surmise, that Yakoob Khan is incapable of governing the turbulent Afghans. Probably he was disposed to carry out the recent treaty in good faith. But in the time of trial the Ameer has been found weak, vacillating, and, like all people with a feeble sense of duty, liable to be carried away by circumstances. Our shortsighted Government seem to have expected this feeble son of Shere Ali to reconcile his subjects to the presence in their capital of a foreign envoy which popular prejudice associated with subjection and degradation. This blunder of policy was really as great as were the boastings of our Ministers before it had been fairly tested. We have learnt on authentic authority that as disaffection grew in Cabul the regard of Yakoob Khan for Sir Louis Cavagnari cooled down; and although he may not have been privy to the treacherous act of the Herattee regiments, he did nothing—the Viceroy's telegram informs us—to stay their hand. As to his future relations to the Indian Government it signifies little whether the Ameer has maintained a neutral attitude or allowed himself to be drawn into the movement. He will no longer rule Afghanistan with the consent of the Indian executive.

But, in the next place, it is too evident that the Ameer was far more favourable to the British alliance than the majority of his subjects. Independence of foreign influence has been the immemorial tradition of the Afghans—as indeed it generally is of mountainous tribes—and with them it is not merely a political question, but is based on religious fanaticism. Our greatest Indian statesmen have recognised the strength of this feeling, and the danger of placing among them any external symbol of foreign authority. It seems, somehow, to have been supposed that the presence of our forces in Afghanistan and their successful campaign, would create a revolution of popular feeling. But if Orientals can only be governed by fear, then in the present case our troops should not have been withdrawn till the Afghans were well assured of our omnipotence. The sending of an Envoy with a weak escort among the turbulent population of the capital was the last of a series of reckless blunders. Those who concocted this easy massacre must have known that it would implicate alike their sovereign and the whole nation. It was an outrage which they knew would be recognised as unpardonable; and it is quite easy to believe that those who have held aloof from such a defiance of the Indian Government would now assist in proclaiming the Jihad, which aims to enlist the fanaticism of all classes in a religious crusade against the Feringhees. Is it not quite possible that at this crisis the various clans will forget their mutual jealousies and animosities, and combine to resist the new invasion? Is it not more than probable that the hill tribes, never yet subdued by the Ameer of Cabul, will welcome this fresh opportunity of co-operating with their Mahomedan brethren, in the hope of securing plunder and driving back the British, who had lately obtained the mastery over them.

Then the task of the Indian Viceroy seems to be far more serious than that of a year ago. Our troops, indeed, occupy a more advanced position, but the difficulties of transport are proportionably increased. The system organised at so heavy a cost was, from economical motives, broken up, and we have to reconstruct it anew, not only

for a winter campaign, but for the purpose of penetrating to Cabul, through a difficult country, and more than a hundred miles in advance of the positions taken up in the late campaign. The demand of General Roberts for double the number of troops now under his command indicates his sense of the serious nature of the work before him.

Yet the military problem in Afghanistan is far less perplexing than the political. A lavish expenditure of means and scientific resources may enable our troops eventually to surmount all obstacles. But when the British flag flies on the citadel of Cabul what is to be done? The *Times* revolts from the thought of an annexation policy. But how else is this warlike nation to be kept down? Yakoob Khan has been tried and found wanting. Probably the Afghans would be less likely to accept another native ruler, and to garrison the chief cities would not only entail a heavy expense, but sow the seeds of chronic conflicts. To conquer Afghanistan, as apparently we must, is to take possession of a vast region that will be a perpetual responsibility, which can never be made remunerative, and which will bring us into close proximity with Russia.

Into this chaos of difficulties the British Empire has been gratuitously plunged by a Government intent upon carrying out an aggressive Imperialist policy in the teeth of all warnings and remonstrances. The terrible imbroglio in Afghanistan is the fruit of their recklessness and infatuated disregard of English principles and traditions. They have sown the wind, and they will now reap the whirlwind. In a moment, as it were, the glamour has been removed from the eyes of the British people. Nothing but success could have kept up the imposture, and now we have signal, and apparently irretrievable, failure.

IN THE ENGADINE.

Twenty years ago the Upper Engadine was a quiet and comparatively unfrequented Alpine valley, and now it is frequented by a crowd of tourists every year increasing in number. The reasons are obvious. It is new ground for those who have gone the "regular Swiss round." It abounds in romantic scenery, and gives the fullest scope to climbers and excursionists. It has rare climatic properties, and its Alpine plants and flowers are the delight of botanists. And, lastly, it is so far away from the haunts of cockney tourists, and costs so much time and money to get there, that the company is necessarily somewhat select.

There are several places of resort in the valley, but the two principal, and certainly the most attractive, spots are St. Moritz and Pontresina—the two being about four miles from each other. Each has a character of its own; the former having mineral springs and baths, and the latter being most favourably situated for excursions. St. Moritz is, perhaps, the more picturesque of the two, and appears to be the favourite spot for lounging, promenading, and flirting, and it is also much frequented by Americans, who add not a little to the life and gaiety of the locality. Pontresina wears a more business-like aspect—the business being the systematic pursuit of the pleasures of mountaineering and climbing. "Where are you going to-day?" and "Where have you been to-day?" are the questions most frequently heard. In the morning it is a curious sight in the narrow stony little street of the older part of the village, to see the various parties turning out, and preparing for their several expeditions. The young men mostly foot it, in all sorts of costumes, alpenstock in hand, and accompanied by guides, who swarm about the place, and make a great show with their axes and ropes; and not a few agile young women join their brothers and sweethearts for the less arduous and dangerous exploits. Where the points of ascent are distant it is usual to ride the earlier part of the way, and ladies who would despise such conveyances at home mount rough mountain carriages with the utmost nonchalance. Then, later in the day, you see the same parties return hot and dusty, with bronzed faces, and sometimes with half-skinned noses, and eyes looking all the worse for the glare of the sun and ice. Some of the ascents are made as early as three or four in the morning, partly to escape the heat of the sun, and also for the sake of better views. Whether the excursions be long and toil-

some, or of quite a moderate character, they create a great amount of healthy excitement in the excursionists, and the result is that at the table d'hôte at the Hotel Roseg—the only one of which I can speak—there is a greater degree of noise, arising from the animated conversation of a large company, conversing in various languages, than I ever remember to have heard at any hotel, Continental or English.

The ascent of the Piz Languard, which takes four hours, seems to be regarded as the greatest exploit, and those who have been fortunate as regards the weather speak with enthusiasm of the views from its summit. I was content with lower altitudes, and yet had some pretty stiff climbs and walks, which, in a hot sun, were enough to try the strength of all but athletic people. Among the notable excursions from Pontrasina are the Roseg and the Mortaratsch glaciers. The first is right opposite Pontrasina, and whether seen in sunlight or moonlight, is a fascinating object, always within sight. The road—a rough one—lies through the lovely Roseg valley, along which the Rosegbrook rushes among boulders and over falls, and the sides of which are lofty crags, sometimes bare, and at others clothed with firs and pines. The glacier is not very difficult of ascent, but has crevasses enough to require care. And what a snow-and-ice world surrounds you after you have reached a tolerably high spot! and how the peaks and serrated edges of the mountains above you stand out sharp and clear against a bright blue sky! The Mortaratsch glacier is rather more distant, and excites the same feelings of delight and wonder in those who are unused to such spectacles. There is also a fine waterfall in the immediate neighbourhood, which, when the sunlight falls upon it, presents a beautiful appearance. Pontrasina has another of these falls, running through a very fine gorge, which seems to be a great favourite with amateur artists, and there is a third at St. Moritz, which calls to remembrance the falls of the Rhine, though of course it by no means approaches them in grandeur.

Of the longer excursions, one of the most striking is that of the Bernina Hospice—a spot of singular wildness, even in Switzerland; where three lakes, differing greatly in colour, according to their source, are surrounded by bare rocks, and neither trees, houses, nor men are visible. Then, at the extremity of the pass, the scene suddenly changes, and from the top of the Grum Alp—a garden of wild flowers in the midst of sterility—there comes upon you, on your right, the magnificent Palii glacier, and in front the rapidly sloping mountain sides, down which you can make your way into Italy. And there are the trees again, and in the distance Poschiavo and its dark green lake, over which there is a hot haze, telling of a very different atmosphere from that which pierces you after your perspiring ascent.

The Maloja Pass gives you another peep into Italy in a different direction, the road being through St. Moritz and by sweet Silvaplana. The road then presents a striking contrast to that to the Bernina Pass; being characterised by loveliness rather than by grandeur. And what a look down is that which you have at the Pass, where the road zig-zags some dozen times before it reaches the bottom, and you wonder how carriages can toil even slowly up or reach the foot in safety, as the horses rattle down the slopes, and shortly turn the seemingly most dangerous corners!

The first sight of Pontrasina disappointed me, as it looked cold and bare after the richer scenery through which I had previously passed. The larches have also this summer suffered from the ravages of some insect, and, as a consequence, look somewhat brown and autumnal. But the scenery grows upon you as you study it, and watch the play of light and shade upon the surrounding mountains, the forms of which, from their peaked and serrated character, are very striking. Then there is the fine, clear, dry, and bracing air. The valley is 6,000 feet above the level of the sea, and the pressure of the atmosphere is much less than elsewhere. One result is, that there is increased solar intensity, the sun's rays being less obstructed than in a denser atmosphere. It is consequently very hot in the sun, and, at the same time, keen, and sometimes chilly, in the shade; but on fine nights the dryness of the air allows you to be out when it would be dangerous in most places in England. The Engadine, however, is not a place to be visited indiscriminately. The air is too stimulating for many persons; inducing sleeplessness and headache, and stimulating the action of the heart. Three of my party were quite upset for the first two or three days; and this I was told is

a not uncommon experience. For this and other reasons, it is not a place to be rushed to, and rushed away from, as is the manner of some tourists; but requires time for the full enjoyment of its special attractions.

The growth of Pontrasina has been very rapid; for whereas in 1865 it could accommodate but a hundred visitors, it now provides for 800, and that number is too small. The existence of great modern hotels, in conjunction with the one narrow stony street running through old Pontrasina, presents a curious contrast; while a little reflection induces a feeling of wonder that so many of the comforts and luxuries of life should be obtainable, and at a moderate cost, in so remote and unproductive a spot. Milk and butter are produced in the district, but the supplies of meat, fish, and poultry come from such distant places as Zurich, Bale, and Chiavenna in Italy. Nothing seems too much for the enterprise of these Swiss, or German, hotel keepers, who go on erecting new hotels, or enlarging the old ones, to keep pace with the growing crowd of visitors. Only think of the Salle-amanger at the Engadine Kulm hotel being lighted with the electric light, the electricity being produced by water power!

One of the entertaining features of Swiss hotel life is the odd combinations to be found among the inmates. At the Roseg I found Episcopal clergymen, of course, and some Dissenting ministers; together with well-known Nonconformist laymen and doctors and lawyers. There happened to be also several leading actors and actresses, as well as some musical celebrities, and these, by their unceasing vivacity, added not a little to the gaiety of the company. The names of such people are not commonly associated with church building, but the ladies and gentlemen in question gave one evening an entertainment in aid of the fund for building an English Episcopal Church, and as it drew largely, the result was a respectable amount to the fund. Part of the entertainment consisted of the musical operetta of *Cox and Box*, and on the following Sunday the chaplain publicly thanked the performers and eulogised their performance! At present the Episcopalians have the use of the parish church, but that does not suit the pretensions of Anglicans, who want a building in which no one will be able to worship but themselves. How is it that, while so many English Nonconformists and Scottish Presbyterians now visit Switzerland, and other places of resort on the Continent, it is impossible to attend any but Episcopal services? I have heard frequent complaints of their unsatisfactory character, and especially of the poverty of the preaching.

I have given my route to the Engadine. That homeward may be also given for the benefit of those who have yet to visit it. It was by the Julier and Schyn Passes, Thusis, Richensau, Ilantz, Dissentis, and over the Ober Alp to Andermatt, and thence to Fluelen and Lucerne. It was diligence or carriage riding all the way, and it took the whole, or parts, of four days; but let no one grudge either the time or money required for such a journey, since there is not a mile of it which is without grandeur, beauty, or interest, and it leaves upon the mind a new impression of the inexhaustible attractiveness of Switzerland to those who have a hunger and a thirst for the loveliest, or the sublimest, of nature's scenes.

INSTRUCTION BY CORRESPONDENCE.

We wish to draw attention to the system of instruction by correspondence intended to assist in the self-education of women who are unable to obtain efficient oral teaching, and more particularly indirect preparation for the higher local examinations—that is, the examinations, by members of either University, of lady-students above eighteen years of age. The system was begun in 1872 by some Cambridge professors, and a year after, at the suggestion of the Association for Promoting the Higher Education of Women, and in special connection with the London Committee for the Cambridge Higher Local Examination, classes were formed for instruction on the same system by certain qualified women. This plan has proved very acceptable to numbers of solitary unassisted young women working under difficulties in order to obtain a certificate which may enable them to pursue the profession of teaching on more profitable terms, and has, indeed, been adopted with more or less completeness by individuals practising it on their own account. The ladies' correspondence classes are conducted by women who have studied under professors at Cambridge, Girton, and other places, who have received certificates at various examinations, those of the London University and others, or have

distinguished themselves at the Higher Local Examinations, and generally had long and successful practice in teaching of an advanced kind. The subjects are religious knowledge, arithmetic and mathematics, English literature, Old English (including Anglo-Saxon), English history, French, German, Greek and Latin, and Italian.

The instruction is given by means of papers of questions set at intervals of, if possible, not longer than a week; solution of difficulties and directions as to books; short essays, or *résumés*, written by the pupils and sent for correction to the teacher; and, in the language-classes, passages set for translation.

The fee is 3*l.* 3*s.* for each subject. The course extends from Oct. 14 to the end of May. Applications for admission to be made to Miss Shore, Fir-grove, Sunninghill.

THE ZULU WAR.

The latest news from the Cape is summarised in the following brief telegram from Sir Garnet to the War Office, dated Ulundi, August 25:—"Situation here remains unchanged since my last telegram. Pursuit Cetewayo continues. Guns and King's cattle surrendering here daily. Villiers was on Assegai River on 21st. Baker Russell advancing northward will co-operate with him if necessary. There appears to be no doubt that the reports representing Cetewayo as at the head of an army were untrue. The highest estimate of the number of his companions is given at sixty (twenty men and forty women), the lowest at two. The war, as the *Times* remarks, seems to have 'degenerated into something very like a hunt with the King as its quarry, and with two English generals as whippers-in in chief.' The pursuit, however, has not yet been successful. The deposed and fugitive King has been followed about from one place to another, has been traced and dislodged from each refuge in which he has attempted to conceal or shelter himself, and is thought at last to have been driven into the bush, where he is supplied with food and drink by his few remaining faithful followers. The *Times* correspondent at Durban, telegraphing on August 25, says:—"Much doubt is entertained whether he will be caught at all. If his people are disposed to shelter him, he will probably escape. If they are, however, indifferent, he may either be caught or killed. It is felt to be most important to the future peace of South Africa and the wellbeing of Zululand that he should not remain at large. I hear that a reward of 100*l.* has been offered for his capture. He has very few followers and is much fatigued. He has probably been led to believe that he will be cruelly treated should he be captured." A later telegram says:—"The King seems to have fled to the Ngome forest. If so, he can be surrounded and starved out. The surrender of arms and of the King's cattle continues. The King's brother to-day was informed that, arms having been found in his kraal after his professing surrender, his kraal would be burnt."

The following summary of the latest news, dated August 26, has been published:—"Sir Garnet Wolseley has had an interview with the Northern chiefs, during which His Excellency explained his plan for the future government of Zululand by means of independent chiefs, and appointed Umgogano chief of the territory between Quibebe and Oham (?), and Oham over the district of Amabelh-lama, between the Black and White Umvolosi. Sir Garnet declared that the only obstacle to the settlement of the peace conditions was the non-capture of Cetewayo. Any chief harbouring the King would be punished. Lord Gifford is still pursuing Cetewayo, and has captured a native who promised on August 21 to show Lord Gifford the King's hiding-place in the Umvolosi bush. Colonel Clarke is now surrounding this locality with 300 men. A body of Basutos has made an attack upon the commissariat wagons. The drivers were killed, and the contents of the wagons looted. The Cape House of Assembly has adopted a resolution in favour of the postponement of the Government scheme for the construction of additional railways in the colony."

The *Times* correspondent at Port Victoria telegraphs on the 24th:—"The general to-day addressed the chiefs, including the Prime Minister and two of the King's brothers, saying that if the King was not caught every district sheltering him would be eaten up. The chiefs gave their old answer, that they knew nothing. The general replied that it was their business to know, and that on their knowing peace and prosperity depended." Another correspondent of the same journal remarks:—"It is hardly possible to conjecture what course will be pursued should the hunting of Cetewayo prove fruitless." Secoceni continues to give trouble as well as Moiroi, the Basuto chief, whose prolonged and hitherto successful resistance to our troops is said to be encouraging other Basuto tribes to join him. The Boers are still giving expression to their dissatisfaction, and Sir Garnet Wolseley is expected shortly at Pretoria."

Messrs. C. Kegan Paul and Co. will publish next month a new work, by the author of the "Childhood of the World," entitled "Jesus of Nazareth: embracing a sketch of Jewish history to the time of his birth."

Literature.

GREEN'S CLASSICAL WRITERS.*

So great is the number of primers of every possible subject that it would seem that readers of all classes are going through the elementary stages of their education. Amongst the various publications of this kind, the most numerous and, we presume, the most popular, are those which relate to history and literature. We receive so many of them that we are often bewildered with their multiplicity. The two before us belong to a new series; but there seems no reason why they should not have been added to the already existing literature primers issued by the same publishers. "The main object of the series," we are told, "is educational, care being taken to impart information in a systematic and thorough way; while an intelligent interest in the writers and their works is sought to be aroused by a clear and attractive style of treatment." If the latter of these two objects can be attained, the advantage will be very great. The danger is that the reader of one of these little manuals will content himself with what he finds in it, whereas it should provide the stimulus to more systematic study of the author whom it introduces. We should, however, be very ungrateful if we did not cordially welcome a series which opens with an account of Milton by Mr. Stopford Brooke, and of Euripides by Professor Mahaffy.

The story of Milton's life has been so often told, and is itself so uneventful, that the chief interest in any account of him must lie in his works. But all that is known of the personal history of the poet is told by Mr. Brooke sympathetically in feeling and charmingly in style. Brevity, as well as good taste, has excluded conjectures which are too often employed to fill up the years of which history is silent. Occasionally a guess is hazarded, as when we read—

The boy lived in his father's house for sixteen years, and may often have seen the figures of the great poets, after their carousing, go gaily down the street, and "tasted the air they left behind them." It pleases our fancy to think that the shadow of Shakspeare may have fallen on Milton's eager face, and the master of English drama touched the master of English epic.

Or again—

It is probable that the boy read many of the well-known poems of his time while at school, and perhaps possessed a copy of that folio Shakspeare published in 1623, of which we know he made use before 1630.

Mr. Brooke's sketch of Milton's life, brief as it necessarily is, is very complete. It is arranged in an orderly manner, and is made the more useful by a chronological table placed at the end. Dr. Johnson says that the period of his life in which Milton returned to England on the breaking out of the King's war with the Scots is that "from which all his biographers seem to shrink." He cannot forbid himself some merriment with "the man who hastens home because his countrymen are contending for their liberty, and, when he reaches the scene of action, vapours away his patriotism in a private boarding-school." Mr. Brooke shows us how Milton was employing himself during the time between his return and his appointment as Latin Secretary. Those ten years of literary labour do not deserve the contemptuous expression of Johnson. *Vapoured away* they were not, for not only was Milton busily engaged with his controversies and education schemes, he was also planning dramatic and epic works, which in maturer years yielded "Paradise Lost." Speaking, ten years after, of the year 1641, he says, "I resolved, though I was then meditating other matters, to transfer into this struggle all my genius and all the strength of my industry." Mr. Brooke has great sympathy with Milton and evident admiration for him, but he condemns his controversial spirit and tone; and he seems to think it was inconsistent in the author of the "Areopagitica" that he should hold the office of Censor of the Press. The following passage refers to the close of the controversial period, about 1655:—

Milton was not an amiable man, where he was traversed, either at home or abroad. He was pleasant with his friends when his friends were fond of him and gave back his courteous praise; he was pleasant when he was happy, and being more happy when he was young, he was pleasantest then. But he could not bear with patience domestic misfortune which he had brought on himself; he was a severe father and husband; and when he was attacked by an adversary he returned the blows, not only for the sake of justice and truth but also because he was injured in his proud self-esteem, with an unequalled ferocity. His intense individuality made him all the more unfit for personal controversy; but much of the bitterness and violence of the manner is to be accounted for by the painful repression for so long of his true nature, and by the sacrifice of his natural work. But, with all exceptions, no grander figure stands forth in the whole of English

* CLASSICAL WRITERS. Edited by J. R. GREEN. Milton. By the Rev. STOPFORD BROOKE. Euripides. By J. P. MAHAFFY, A.M. (London: Macmillan & Co.)

literature, scarcely any grander in English history, than the figure of the blind, resolute, eloquent man, who now, fallen on days that grew graver and graver, sat in his room at Westminster, impassioned for work, still more impassioned for liberty; having done with personal wars; and looking forward always to the time when he might let himself loose, and, leaving the disputes and passions of earth, soar into the poetic air in which alone he breathed with ease, and pleasure, and triumph. He loved beauty, not only the beauty of human passion or of nature, but still more the solemn beauty of lofty thought, more than any man in England has ever loved it; and yet, in the midst of the crowding imaginations into which he shaped the messages his celestial patroness, Urania, sent him, he kept himself to the work he thought needful for his fellow citizens, and waited quietly, until all other work was done, to do his greatest work.

This is the only example of the spirit and style of this little volume for which we can find space. Very gladly would we quote other, and, perhaps, even more charming, passages in which the book abounds. It is written with an eloquent enthusiasm which inspires the reader, however well he may know Milton and his works. Almost one-half of the book is an exposition of the "Paradise Lost," "Paradise Regained," and "Samson Agonistes," both as to form and subject. Mr. Matthew Arnold has lately lent his high authority to a French critic on Milton, who says of the "Paradise Lost" that it "is a false poem, a grotesque poem, a tiresome poem; there is not one reader out of a hundred who can read the ninth and tenth books without smiling, or the eleventh and twelfth without yawning." Mr. Stopford Brooke makes no direct reference to this, but he asks why do people read "Paradise Lost"? and he replies:—

First, because the story interests them; secondly, because of its fine passages; thirdly, for its art; lastly, for all these three wrought into a splendid whole and unity by the imagination of a great genius. . . . Its majesty and beauty are beyond praise; its faults should be spoken of by smaller men with truth, but with reverence. But all may tell of the pleasure that it gives them, and strive to find the sources of that pleasure, and the more fully anyone can do this the more he will feel his soul enlarged. It is this I have endeavoured to do in the following pages.

Professor Mahaffy contributes the first volume to the Greek series, his subject being "Euripides." In the absence of details of the poet's personal life, we have a picture of the age and the society in which he moved. The man and his environment are so vitally connected that we must know both to know one. In the case of poets especially is this true, we are told, as he "is strictly the child of his day, the exponent of a national want, the preacher of a national aspiration, at once the leader and the outcome of a literary public, or, at least, of a public which craves after spiritual sustenance." Added to the chapter on this subject is a very detailed chronological table of the political, literary, and artistic events of "his age and surroundings." In the next chapter the "poet's life and studies" are described, and an attempt is made to estimate his politics, his social principles, and his religion. The most marked feature of his character was the sadness which fell like a shadow from the moral state of society, and from the insoluble problems of human life. This chapter contains much that is of universal interest, belonging to our own time as well as to that of Euripides; and showing him in a relation to the orthodoxy of his day which is repeated too often amongst ourselves.

By far the greater part of this volume is occupied with a description and analysis of the dramas of Euripides, two chapters being devoted to special characters—heroines, heroes, heralds, slaves. In explanation of the purpose for which Greek and Latin authors have been selected with writers of our own tongue to a place in this series, we are told by the editor—

Classical authors especially have too long been regarded in our schools as mere instruments for teaching the principles of grammar and language, while the personality of the men themselves, and the circumstances under which they wrote, have been left in the background. Against such an irrational and one-sided method of education the present series is a protest.

We have little doubt that for this purpose books of this kind will be found most useful. But as an introduction to the dramas themselves for the general reader they are not nearly so effective as versions such as Mr. Browning has given in "Balaustion" and "Aristophanes' Apology." Doubtless these versions will become more intelligible under the guidance of Professor Mahaffy. The following poem has been translated by Mr. Browning for this volume as an example of the lyric power of the poet:—

I.
O, Love, Love, thou that from the eyes diffusest
Yearning, and on the soul sweet grace inducest—
Souls against whom thy hostile march is made—
Never to me be manifest in ire,
Nor, out of time and tune, my peace invade!
Since neither from the fire—
No, nor the stars—is launched a bolt more mighty
Than that of Aphrodite,
Hurled from the hands of Love, the boy with Zeus
for sire;

II.
Idly, how idly, by the Alpheian river,
And in the Pythian shrines of Phœbus, quiver
Blood-offerings from the bull, which Hellas heaps:
While Love we worship not—the Lord of men!
Worship not him, the very key who keeps
Of Aphrodite, when
She closes up her dearest chamber-portals:
—Love, when he comes to mortals,
Wide-wasting, through those deeps of woes beyond
the deep!

BRET HARTE'S NEW STORY.*

Mr. Bret Harte has here once more introduced us to the wild life of the Western American mountains; to the old characters, in so far—adventurous miners, swashbucklers, nondescript braggarts, players, and the rest. But the interest is concentrated on the Twins of Table Mountain, Ruth and Rand—which are contractions for Rutherford and Randolph—and on Mornie, a young lady who has her own secret history, and who manages to draw out, in different forms, the feelings of the brothers. There are Mr. Sol and his wife, and Miss Euphemia, players, who bring in amidst the primitive forces of human nature, which Mr. Bret Harte knows so well how to exhibit effectively, an air of artificial life, which sometimes yields a very grotesque contrast. There are the people down at the rude settlement, the innkeeper, the doctor, and a few others, who really make up for Mr. Harte's purposes a pretty complete world. There is a fascination in his descriptions of lofty mountain peaks, clothed with whispering pines, dim-defined trails, interrupted by the tracks of wild animals. He plants his hut on the highest of a ledge of rocks, and sets off the dangers of outward circumstance by the oddest contrasts of human will and character. Ruth and Rand, in the moment of their difference chalking off the hut into two equal divisions, are of this character, and very vividly we are made to see them, as also the discovery of Mornie, and the daring efforts of Rand to save her from the peril into which she had fallen. So also the conflict of the people down below with Rand, whom they had not unnaturally mistaken for his brother Ruth, since they were closely alike; Ruth, too, having returned haggard and worn from his extraordinary trip to take up the strife. One slight mistake, we cannot help thinking, in point of wit, is the ending. Though if too much detail about the future of Mornie's child had been given, it might have been out of proportion, still we certainly think a little further hint might have been given to us. As a specimen of Mr. Bret Harte's vigorous and descriptive style we may give the opening picture:—

They lived on the verge of a vast stony level, upheaved so far above the surrounding country that its vague outlines, viewed from the nearest valley, seemed a mere cloud-streak resting on the lesser hills. The rush and roar of the turbulent river that washed its eastern base were lost at that height; the winds that strove with the giant pines that halfway climbed its flanks, spent their fury below the summit. For, at variance with most meteorological speculation, an external calm seemed to invest this serene altitude. The few Alpine flowers seldom thrilled their petals to a passing breeze; rain and snow fell alike perpendicularly, heavily, and monotonously over the granite boulders scattered along its brown expanse. Although by actual measurement an inconsiderable elevation of the Siesian Range, and a mere shoulder of the nearest white-faced peak that glimmered in the west, it seemed to lie so near the quiet, passionless stars that at night it caught something of their calm remoteness. The articulate utterance of such a locality should have been a whisper; a laugh or exclamation was discordant, and the ordinary tones of the human voice on the night of the 15th May, 1868, had a grotesque incongruity.

We shall quote here in contrast the impression produced on Rand when he first heard the cries of Mornie Nixon, and the account of his efforts to save her—one of the most striking passages in the book:—

The sun sank redly. Lingered long upon the ledge before their cabin, it at last slipped away almost imperceptibly, leaving Rand still wrapped in reverie. Darkness, the smoke of distant fires in the woods, and the faint evening incense of the pines crept slowly up, but Ruth came not. The moon rose—a silver gleam on the further ridge; and Rand, becoming uneasy at his brother's prolonged absence, resolved to break another custom, and leave the summit to seek him on the trail. He buckled on his revolver, seized his gun, when a cry from the depths arrested him. He leaned over the ledge and listened. Again the cry arose, and this time more distinctly. He held his breath; the blood settled around his heart in superstitious terror. It was the wailing voice of a woman!

"Ruth! Ruth! for God's sake come and help me!" The blood flew back hotly to Rand's cheek. It was Mornie's voice. By leaning over the ledge he could distinguish something moving along the almost precipitous face of the cliff, where an abandoned trail, long since broken off and disrupted by a fall of a portion of the ledge, stopped abruptly a hundred feet below him. Rand knew the trail, a dangerous one always; in its present condition a single misstep would be fatal. Would she make that misstep? He shook off a horrible temptation that seemed to be seal-

* The Twins of Table Mountain. By BRET HARTE. (Chatto and Windus.)

ing his lips, paralysing his limbs, and almost screamed to her.

"Drop on your face, hang on to the *chapparral*, and don't move." In another instant, with a coil of rope around his arm, he was dashing down the almost perpendicular "slide." When he had nearly reached the level of the abandoned trail he fastened one end of the rope to a jutting splinter of granite, and began to "lay out," and work his way laterally along the face of the mountain. Presently he struck the regular trail at the point from which the woman must have diverged. "It is Rand," she said, without lifting her head. "It is," replied Rand coldly, "Pass the rope under your arms and I'll get you back to the trail." "Where is Ruth?" she demanded again, without moving. She was trembling, but with excitement rather than fear. "I don't know," returned Rand impatiently, "Come! the ledge is already crumbling beneath our feet." "Let it crumble," said the woman passionately. Rand surveyed her with profound disgust, then passed the rope around her waist, and half lifted, half swung her from her feet. In a few moments she began to mechanically help herself, and permitted him to guide her to a place of safety.

Though we cannot regard [this book as quite equal to the "Luck of Roaring Camp," either for rough humour or for pathos, it has all the characteristic flavour of the author, and we doubt not it will be widely read, as it deserves.

"BURNHAM BEECHES."

It has been remarked that the immediate neighbourhood of London is more beautiful than that of any other great city, and the remark is probably correct. True, there is no such magnificent river as the Hudson, with scenes rivalling those of the Rhine, nor is there such marvellous picturesqueness as is to be found in the "Thousand Isles." But taking all in all it would be difficult to find in any neighbourhood in the world such varied, pleasant, and even romantic scenery as is to be found within an hour's ride of the metropolis.

"Burnham Beeches" is one of the most picturesque of these places, though not so frequently resorted to as Epping Forest or even Box Hill. This should not be so, for it has a wonderful beauty of its own. There is not here a single beech, perhaps, that surpasses that in Knole Park, Sevenoaks, but there are scores of the greatest and most beautiful beeches in all the world; the scenery around is lovely, and the associations of the neighbourhood are of a most romantic character. It was intended to sell this altogether unique holiday-place, but, thanks to the Corporation of London, that piece of vandalism was not perpetrated.

No one better than our author could describe the Burnham Beeches, for Mr. Heath, as his rare "Book of Ferns" has told us long ago, is a lover of trees and of all nature. And, if you do not love trees, and love them better even than flowers, Mr. Heath will go a long way towards educating you into his faith, or, at least, into our faith. Read the description of the walk from Stoke Poges—Gray's Stoke Poges—and you come to this:—

Surely we have seen this spot, in imagination, long before our first acquaintance with Burnham Beeches. It must be the spot—the very spot—which suggested the lines in Gray's "Elegy":—

"There at the foot of yonder nodding beech,
That wreathes its old fantastic roots so high,
His listless length at noontide would he stretch,
And pore upon the brook that babbles by."

Here is the "nodding beech" bending over our heads, its trunk inclined towards the stream. Wreathing all around us, high out of the ground, are "its old fantastic roots," and, in front of us, is the "babbling brook," whose clear water is dreamily tumbling along in its stony bed, rippling and sparkling in the sunshine where its course lies out and away from the shadow flung upon it by the grand old tree under which we sit.

We are not, gentle reader, putting forward this suggestion as a pleasant fancy. It is more than probable that this spot suggested the verse we have quoted.

It is the first grand old tree encountered on entering this little forest, and this very spot is the very point at which Gray would, in all probability, have approached the woods from Stoke. The Beech, though its bole is quite hollow, with half of its shell gone, has singularly vigorous branches. At three feet from the ground, measuring upwards from the top of the sloping bank on which it is placed, the half bole girths sixteen feet!

A little further back from the stream, but near us on our right, is another enormous beech bole, dwarfed by the "pollarding," but bearing vigorous limbs. It is hollow, and part of the shell has gone; but not enough to prevent an approximate estimate of its ancient girth, which must have been, following the sinuosities of the trunk at three feet above the ground, no less than twenty-four feet! Another tree, still to the west of this one, and lying midway between the brook and the road, is nineteen feet in girth at three feet from the ground, and, though hollow, has preserved in perfection the shell of its bole.

If, having crossed the bridge, we follow the roadway over it, we can skirt this little Forest of Burnham, and return to the point whence we started. From the stream-side the road ascends gently, cutting off on the left-hand side of the way a small triangular strip of common, spread with bracken, the noble forms of the gnarled and ancient beeches we have last described, and another beech close to the roadway with a girth of twenty-one feet. On the right of our path lies the wild tract of Burnham Forest, sloping upwards as it rolls

away out of our sight, and spread with lawns of singular beauty, studded with huge forms of Beech, and spread with bracken, furze, and bramble, the greensward starred with daisy blooms, and golden with buttercups and trefoil.

Flowers are beautiful, but trees are grand. Some of Vernon Heath's pictures of the grandest trees are here delightfully drawn and engraved, so that letterpress and illustrations compete with each other for the praise of excellence.

Mr. Heath tells the reader all about the Beeches, how to get to them, and what may be seen. Burnham has an old and a modern history. These reminiscences belong to the modern:—

Of the hamlet of East Burnham, Mr. James Thorne gives an interesting account, which we shall quote, in his valuable "Handbook to the Environs of London." He says that "It consists of a few poor cottages and indescribable tenements, with a little public-house, The Crown, a farmhouse or two, and three or four houses of a better class, scattered irregularly along the south side of the common, and about the skirts of Burnham Beeches. The Manor House, in which the Eyres had lived for over four centuries, and the Great House, which also belonged to them, were both demolished in 1838. A smaller house, now enlarged, was the East Burnham Cottage, to which Richard Brinsley Sheridan brought his lovely young bride (Miss Linley) after their furtive flight to Paris, and from which several of his letters, printed in Moore's 'Life of Sheridan,' are addressed. This house was purchased by George Grote in the spring of 1838, with a wood of about eleven acres, enlarged and made 'tolerably comfortable,' and other land being added to it, 'called (by courtesy) East Burnham Park.' In this house Grote 'laid out the scheme' of his 'History of Greece,' and wrote a large part of it. Here he resided until 1852, when, writes Mrs. Grote (in her 'Collected Papers,' published by Mr. Murray in 1862), 'I caused a small Elizabethan house to be built in Pople's Park, and also a range of farm buildings, and a labourer's cottage.' The house was built from the profits accruing from the 'History,' and hence was playfully named 'History Hut,' a name by which it is constantly referred to in Mrs. Grote's memoir of her husband. Here the 'History' was continued to its conclusion, at the Christmas of 1855, when, writes Mrs. Grote, 'I had a bowl of punch brewed for our little household at History Hut, in celebration of the completion of the *opus magnum*; Grote himself sipping the delicious mixture with great satisfaction, whilst manifesting little emotion outwardly, though I could detect unmistakable signs of inward complacency as I descended upon the happiness of our living to see this day, and so forth.' Assuredly the bowl of punch that celebrated the completion of the 'History of Greece,' will be as lastingly associated with History Hut at Burnham Beeches as those 'several turns in a bower of acacias,' taken by the historian of the 'Decline and Fall,' when he laid down his pen after writing 'the last lines of the last page in the summer-house of his garden' at Lausanne. Perhaps, too, it will be remembered that, among the visitors at History Hut, were such men as Hallam, Bunsen, Lewis, De Tocqueville, and others of hardly inferior fame. A visit to Burnham Beeches will at any rate lose none of its interest by the recollections called forth by the 'Elizabethan House,' or its older neighbour. The Grotes sold the property (for reasons fully set forth in the 'Collected Papers') in January, 1858, after having resided in the hamlet, with one short interval, for twenty years."

We need say no more of this charming book; but we heartily advise the reader to take it with him on any excursion to Burnham, and we remind him that, if spring has its charm, so has autumn its glory, as a walk to Burnham—say next month—would amply prove.

POEMS IN THE DORSET DIALECT.*

What a lovely world the very title of these rural poems of Mr. Barnes conjures up—the sweet lanes of Dorset, white with may-blossom, or russet or black with the berries of autumn, the sweeps of meadow, here and there broken into orchard (for Dorset dearly loves its cider), recalling the favourite spots of Normandy or Brittany, the quaint little cottages nestling amid greenery, more picturesque, perhaps, than comfortable in many cases! And as we open the book, and carefully scan its contents, the world of human associations is still more forcibly recalled. For, though the Dorset peasant has his sluggish, ignorant, and prosaic side, of which a certain class of writers have made so much, it is evident that he is not without his sentiment, his quaint reflectiveness, his passionate tenderness, hid under a somewhat unyielding exterior—in a word, his vein of veiled poetry; else how could Mr. Barnes have written this volume? The business of the poet is to mark capabilities, to exhibit the possible ideal that is dimly cherished, to reveal clearly and consciously the beauty which human nature may unconsciously or half-consciously find in its surroundings, elevating the daily life and making it a little more harmonious. Were we to infer from Mr. Barnes' poems what the rural life of Dorset is, it would reflect itself in our imagination as a life of daily toil, of many pains and trials, borne with great resignation if not with nobleness, lightened up by a more or less keen perception of the fun, the humour, and the disparities of life.

Mr. Barnes is right in claiming for his Dorset a very high, if not the highest place, among the dialects of England, and certainly it owes much to the use which he has made of it. In this volume he has gathered all of the best in former collections under separate headings, and has added to these as many new poems as would have in themselves formed a very fair-sized volume. One general criticism needs to be made. In some cases Mr. Barnes does not realise so fully any special element in the Dorset life as to enable him finally to enshrine it in what is untranslatable dialect. By this we mean that a section of the poems owe so little to anything in the dialect, that we can translate them into ordinary English with the utmost ease, and find that they lose nothing of character or idea in the process. But it needs to be said that these poems belong chiefly to what we may call general nature descriptions, such as those on "Spring" and "Summer." But the case stands very different indeed whenever Mr. Barnes catches hold of any element of human interest. We may illustrate these two points by quotation. Take as a specimen the first stanza of "Spring," at p. 252, as we have put it in classical English by merely changing the spelling:—

Now the sunny airs a-blowing,
Softly over flowers a growing;
And the sparkling lights do quiver
On the ivy-bough and river;
Bleating lambs, with woolly 'aces
Now do play, a-running races;
And the springing
Lark's a-singing
Like a dot before the cloud
High above the ash's shroud.

But this is far from being true of the majority of the poems, the very thought and feeling refusing to yield itself to any other form of speech. Particularly is this the case with the eclogues, or little bits of dialogue, executed with the utmost realism and faithfulness. By way of specimen of this class, we may extract the following from a dialogue between Simon and a friend. The superstitions regarding fairies are there depicted with a vein of real humour. Thus Simon finally meets some doubtful suggestions and repels them:—

Why, when the vo'k were all asleep, abed,
The Veairies us'd to come, as 'tis a-said,
Afore the vire wer ewold, an' dance an hour
Or two at dead o' night upon the floor;
Var they, by only utteren a word
Or charm, can come down chimney, like a bird;
Or draw their bodies out so long an' narrow,
That they can vlee drough keyholes like an arrow.
An' zoo woone midnight, when the moon did drow
His light drough window, roun' the floor below,
An' crickets roun' the bricken he'th did zing,
They come an' danced about the hall in ring,
An' tapped drough little holes noo eyes could spy,
A kag o' poor aunt's meid a stannèn by.
An' woone o'm drink'd so much, he couldn mind
The word he wer to zay to meike en small;
He got a-dathered zoo [a-dazed so], that after all
Out t'others went an' left en back behind.
An' after he'd a-beat about his head,
Agein the keyhole till he wer half dead,
He laid down all along upon the floor
Till granfer coomen dowt, unlocked the door:
An' then he zeed en 'twere enough to frighten en)
Bolt out o'door an' down the road lik' lightenen.

Perhaps one of the sweetest pieces in the volume is the "Milkmaid o' the Farm," which we make no excuse for here extracting, because it furnishes an admirable illustration of what we have said about Mr. Barnes' fine sympathy with human nature and his power to make much out of a slight subject. This is a mere hurried sketch, as we may say, of a single figure, but how graceful, simple, quaint, finished and beautiful it is:—

THE MILKMAID O' THE FARM.

O Poll's the milkmaid o' the farm!
An' Poll's so happy out in groun',
Wi' her white pail below her earm
As if she wore a goolden crown.
An' Poll don't zit up half the night
Nor lie vor half the day a-bed;
An' zoo her eyes be sparklèn bright,
An' zoo her cheeks be bloomèn red.
In zummer mornèns, when the lark
Do rouse the litty lad an' lass
To work, then she's the vdst to mark
Her steps along the dewy grass.
An' in the evenèn, when the zun
Do sheen agein the western brows
O' hills, where bubbèn brooks do run,
There she do zing beside the cows.
An' ev'ry cow of hers do stand,
An' never overzet her pail;
Nor try to kick her simble hand,
Nor switch her wi' her heavy tail.
Noo leddy wi' her muff an' vail,
Do walk wi' sich a steatly tread
As she do, wi' her milken pail
A-balanced on her comely head.
An' she at mornèn an' at night,
Do skim the yellow cream, an' mwold
An' wring her cheeses red an' white,
An' zee the butter retched an' roll'd.
An' in the barken or the ground,
The chaps do always do their best,
To milk the ou't their own cows round,
An' then help her to milk the rest.

* *Burnham Beeches*. By FRANCIS GEORGE HEATH. With Illustrations and Map. (Sampson Low and Co.)

* *Poems of Rural Life in the Dorset Dialect*. By WILLIAM BARNES. (C. Kegan Paul and Co.)

Zoo Poll's the milkmaid o' the farm !
An' Poll's so happy out in groun',
Wi' her white pail below her eärm,
As if she wore a goolden crown.

Flowers furnish Mr. Barnes with a never-ending theme. He cannot walk along the most commonplace bit of road but they take his eye and gladden his spirit. Whatever in such case cheers and animates him, he can recommend to the reader's sympathies, as witness these two pieces:—

THE CLOTE

(Water Lily.)

O, summer clote ! when the brook's a-gliden
So slow an' smooth down his zedgy bed,
Upon thy broad leaves so seäfe a-ridden,
The water's top wi' thy yellow head,
By alder's heads, O,
An' bulrush beds, O,

There thou dost flote, goolden summer clote !

The grey-boughed withy's a leanen lowly
Above the water thy leaves do hide,
The benden bulrush, a-awayen slowly,
Do skirt in summer thy river's zide;
An' perch in shoals, O,
Do vill the holes, O,

Where thou dost flote, goolden summer clote !

Of all the books drough the meads a winden,
Of all the meads by a river's brim,
There's nwoone so feäir o' my own heart's vinden
As where the maidens do zee thee swim,
An' stand to take, O,
Wi' long-stemmed räke, O,

Thy flower a-flote, goolden summer clote !

THE SILVER WEED.

The silver-weed upon the green,
Out where my sons an' daughters play'd,
Had never room to bicom between
The letty steps o' bwoy an' maid.

But wrose-trees down along the wall,
That then wer all the maidens ceäre,
An' all a-trimmed an' traën'd did bear
Their bloomèn buds vrom Spring to Fall.

But now the silver leaves do show
To summer day their goolden crown,
Wi' noo swift shoe-soles litty blow
In merry play to beat 'em down.

An' where vor years zome busy hand
Did train the wroses wide an' high,
Now woone by woone the trees do die
An' vew of all the row do stand.

There is true pathos in such pieces as "The Child's Grave" and "The Love Child," which we would fain have quoted had our space not already been fully occupied; and we find lyrical flow and melody in "My love is Good," "The Water Späeng in the Lüne," and the "Bells of Alderburnham." There is also quiet humour in such pieces as "Working Bloom the Miller," and exquisite nature-feeling in "Trees be Company" and "The Lilac." On the whole Mr. Barnes has pretty well described the entire circle of Dorset life and feeling, and his volume will be recognised as at once one of the most valuable additions to poetry and to an interesting branch of philology.

THE REV. CHARLES WILLIAMS ON THE BAPTISTS.*

This, in appearance, is a somewhat unpretentious book, although it has gilt edges and is otherwise made to look rather attractive. It is worth, however, a great deal more than it seems to be. If it may be termed a popular manual, or, as Mr. Williams has it, a "book for inquirers," it may also be described as a book based upon very wide and careful reading, with indications of ripe scholarship, while, as might be expected from the author, its tone throughout, if firm, is also charitable.

There is a strong temptation, in meeting with such a work as this, to diverge from the ordinary review into an essay on the distinctive services and the relative value of the principles of the Baptist denomination. This is not the place for such a treatment of Mr. Williams's book, and, besides, it would be extremely difficult to assess the actual work of the Baptist denomination. Not only has there to be considered the influence of the doctrine of believer's baptism—which has, we suspect, been far more fruitful spiritually, and therefore in the highest sense, than it has been ecclesiastically—but also the specific influences of strict and open communion, both on the Baptists themselves and on the churches external to them. We suspect that it would be found, in this case, that the practice of strict communion has kept the denomination within comparatively narrow bounds. Of course it is no discredit to a Church to be small; sometimes, indeed, both small and even diminishing numbers may be, for a time, proof simply of extreme purity; but only for a time, because purity should ultimately make its superior moral and spiritual influence felt. If it does not do that, there must be something else—of form, of manner, or of temper, which acts as a drag upon purity; and that something must be a mistake. However, as we have

said, we cannot enter into these questions, and therefore we return at once to the volume before us.

Mr. Williams has shown practical wisdom in exhibiting, in his introduction, the extent to which Baptists agree with other Christians. As we know, they agree with other Christians in almost everything. Why, therefore, separation? This question leads, of course, to a definition of the principles of the Baptists. Here, however, again, it will, to a large extent, be found that these principles underlie all modern Nonconformity, and, so far as they do so, are therefore not peculiar to the Baptists. Spiritual independence and self-government are common to all; but these are principles that need, even in these days, to be stated and re-stated, and Mr. Williams has done well in traversing this old ground. Next comes a consideration of the doctrine of baptism. Here we have a very firm, if not hard, definition, which we quote, because, in the tendency towards union which some have exhibited, it is well to know what such a high authority as Mr. Williams says upon this subject—

The most distinguishing peculiarity of Baptists is their doctrine of Christian baptism. They hold that baptism is an ordinance designed by the Lord Jesus to be administered to none save His disciples, and to them on a profession of their discipleship; that baptism is, and can only be, the immersion in water of the person thus confessing Christ. This, in their judgment, is Christian baptism, nor do they acknowledge either the obligation or validity of any other baptism. The subject, they believe, should be a disciple; the mode, immersion. The baptism of infants may have been practised from time immemorial, certainly for more than sixteen centuries; the overwhelming majority of Christians in the present day may accept infant baptism as both lawful and obligatory; the doctors of many churches and successive councils of ecclesiastics may have sanctioned and decreed the baptism of infants; the whole of Christendom even may condemn Baptists for their Nonconformity, and adjudge them to be in error. None of these things move them. They refuse to receive as part of their faith, or to practise as part of their religion, what is not clearly taught in the New Testament Scriptures. Resolved that their faith shall "not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God," they appeal to Holy Writ, concerned only to know the answer to the question, "What saith the Scripture?" They fail to find the command to baptize infants in the words of the Lord Jesus, nor do they find that the apostles, to whom these words were at first spoken, baptized infants. On this ground they reject the dogma of infant baptism. For a similar reason, they do not follow other Christians in substituting sprinkling or pouring for immersion in baptism. Their desire is in this matter, not to please themselves, but to do the will of the Lord. Believing that the Lord Jesus was immersed by John the Baptist in the River Jordan, that the disciples made by Christ were immersed by the apostles, that the converts of the first century were immersed, and that the commission instructs those who act under it to immerse disciples into the name of the Triune God of salvation, Baptists can do none other, on their principles, than immerse converts on a profession of discipleship. They hold that sprinkling or pouring is no more baptism than it is immersion, that to baptize is to immerse.

We cannot, of course, follow the author through his defence of this position, but we may say that it will be found to be extremely clear, and that it embodies some of the latest results of Biblical teaching.

We were somewhat anxious to see how Mr. Williams would treat the question of the Lord's Supper—to which baptism is the term of admission in all churches—and church ordinances. As to the differences upon this subject between the two bodies into which Baptists themselves are divided, Mr. Williams says:—

There are churches among Baptists which admit the unbaptized to membership; but these churches are comparatively few in number. The overwhelming majority of the churches make baptism a condition of membership: some on the ground that a Christian church is an organised assembly of baptized believers, and that the unbaptized disciple has no right to membership, as the Roman who would not take the oath could not be numbered with the soldiers of the republic; and others, on the ground that in these days of denominations it is for many reasons desirable and preferable that every Christian should unite with the company of disciples whose faith and customs are most in accordance with his own convictions, and that a Baptist church should be a church consisting of Baptists only. These differences, it may be noted, do not affect the general principle, which is accepted and acted upon by all Baptists, that a church has the right and ought to determine its own membership.

There is an admirable chapter following on the relations of the Baptists to the State. There is no more honourable ecclesiastical history in the world than this—scarcely one so honourable. Without entering into details, Mr. Williams, in brief space, does full justice to this subject.

Besides those which we have indicated there are interesting chapters in this work on "The Baptists of Past Ages," and the "Aims and Probable Future of the Baptists." There are also some admirable appendices, containing lists of works on Baptism, forms of trust deeds, and some ecclesiastical statistics.

SCHOOL BOOKS.

* *The Principles and Practices of the Baptists.* A Book for Inquirers. By CHARLES WILLIAMS, of Megrington. (Baptist Tract Society.)

A Child's First Latin Book. By THEOPHILUS D. HALL, M.A. (London: John Murray.) This is a new edition of what was a very simple and useful

introduction to Latin Accidence. It is now much enlarged and improved.

Introductions to Principia Latina. Parts I. and II. (London: John Murray.) These are scarcely introductions to the Principia. If they are intended for very young children, as the author suggests, they contain matter too hard. The notes to the second part are quite beyond little boys and girls. The Principia is a very easy book, and these might be used simultaneously with it, for the sake of additional examples and illustrations.

Short Exercises in Latin Prose Composition. Part II. By the Rev. HENRY BELCHER, M.A. *Passages for Translation into Latin Prose.* By ALEX. W. POTTS, M.A., LL.D. (London: Macmillan and Co.) The short exercises of Mr. Belcher are on the syntax of the sentence. They are in all respects admirable, and are accompanied by grammatical and idiomatic notes. "Passages for Translation" is a much more advanced text-book, and assumes the practice of composition to have been acquired.

Introductory Exercises in Latin Prose Composition. By G. F. H. SYKES. *P. Vergili Maronis Aeneidos.* Edited by LEONHARD SCHMITZ, LL.D. (London: Collins and Co.) Mr. Sykes is the author of a larger selection of exercises in the Latin grammar, for which this will serve as an introduction. It refers to Dr. Schmitz's admirable grammar as well as to the "Public School Latin Primer." Dr. Schmitz has given us the first six books of the great Latin epic. The volume is edited with the learning, accuracy, and simplicity by which all his works are distinguished. It will be found a useful introduction to the study of Virgil; it will really help, without diminishing, the industry and intelligence of a boy.

First Principles of Roman History.—First Principles of English Grammar. By T. S. TAYLOR. (London: Relfe Bros.) The Roman History is constructed on the principle of previous manuals by the same author. A few facts and events—amounting in this case to sixty—are arranged with their dates attached to be committed to memory. A paragraph of explanation is given to each. The word element would be more suitable than principle. The objection does not apply to the second work on grammar. The author begins very sensibly with the sentence, and works through its possible constituent parts.

The First Book of English History. By Dr. WILLIAM DAVIS. (London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.) A child who goes through this book will have learned to answer 446 questions on the chief events of English History. If he can carry so much in his memory he will have done well. The facts are well selected, and the language is clear and simple; but our invincible dislike to catechisms would prevent our using or recommending the book.

A Manual of Organic Chemistry. By HUGH CLEMENTS, &c. (London: Blackie and Son.) A thoroughly good coach for the examinations of the science and art department. The syllabus of the department is first given; then follow the text treating of the subjects required. After a description of the apparatus needed for the preparation and analysis of organic bodies, there follow a number of questions and exercises. Finally, are the papers set at the examinations of the last ten years, with answers lucidly worked out.

Twenty Lessons in Inorganic Chemistry, &c., by W. G. VALENTIN (Collins), is experimental as far as a book can be. The lessons begin with an experiment, the process being made visible by wood engravings; the explanation and inferences follow. The whole is extremely simple, and is well adapted to the requirements of the Science and Art Department. For the student who cannot obtain the assistance of class teaching this is one of the best elementary books of which he can avail himself.

Elementary Arithmetic, and How to Teach It. By GEORGE RICKS, B.Sc. (London: Wm. Isbister, Limited.) We are not aware of the existence of any book so good as this for the special purpose for which it has been written. Since the publication of De Morgan's "Arithmetic," the progress in the art of teaching the science has been very great, and the text books have greatly improved. But elementary teaching is still, to a large extent, unintelligent and lacking in reason. The processes are slurred over in order, as is supposed, to gain mechanical skill rapidly. This book is the production of an inspector of schools under the London School Board. His opportunities of observing methods, and of testing their value, are therefore very great. The result of his experience is that arithmetic may be taught to very young children, and their knowledge of figures need never be a ad-

vance of their knowledge of the processes by which the figures are manipulated. The early stages are somewhat longer, as the first few rules applied to numbers under ten are thoroughly known before the child passes to higher numbers. Further, through the initial stages every combination is shown under one or more concrete forms. The progress later on becomes more rapid and more secure than by a less logical system.

CLARENDON PRESS SERIES.—*Shakespeare Select Plays: Coriolanus*. Edited by WILLIAM ALDIS WRIGHT, LL.D. (Oxford.) The preface of this edition contains first a discussion as to the date of the drama; secondly, extracts from Professor Skeets' "Shakespeare's Plutarch" which, as the editor says, will enable the reader "to see something of the subliming process which the rough material underwent before it finally assumed dramatic form and unity." The notes are, as usual, brief, instructive, and comparative, explaining Shakespeare by Shakespeare.

Old English Dramas: Select Plays. Edited by A. W. WARD, M.A. (Oxford: at the Clarendon Press.) We have here as a contribution to the study of the English drama, and to the growth of the English language, two plays:—Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus* and Greene's *Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay*. The editor has given us, however, much more than the text of these plays with a few explanatory notes. The volume consists of less than four hundred pages, of which about a fourth are text, and the remainder introduction and notes. The former contains a full history of the Faust legend and its connection with Friar Bacon and alchemy. The latter are explanatory of words and things referred to obscurely.

Children's Treasury of Bible Stories. Part I: Old Testament. By Mrs. HERMAN GASKOIN. (London: Macmillan and Co.) This primer is supplementary to the Old Testament histories written by the Rev. G. F. Maclear and published in the same series. In the preface we are told "the little volume which my sister, Mrs. Herman Gaskoin, has written will, I think, be found to supply a distinct want. It appeals to children's appreciation of the beautiful in nature, and is written in a clear and attractive style." The style is certainly charming. The book is well fitted for children's classes as a reader and a text for further Scripture teaching.

The Commentary for Schools. Edited by C. J. ELLICOTT, D.D. *St. John*. By the Rev. H. W. WATKINS. *The Acts of the Apostles*. By the Rev. E. H. PLUMPTRE, D.D. *The First Epistle to the Corinthians*. By T. TEIGNMOUTH SHORE, M.A. (Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.) It would be unfair to the editors of these volumes and to our readers to regard this commentary for schools merely as a school book. It may doubtless serve that purpose in higher classes of day-schools, and especially in the Bible-classes of Sunday-schools; but it is adapted to the wants of Bible readers of every age, except those who are actually professional students. The series has been suggested probably by the Cambridge Bible for Schools, of which we have twice given some account. But it is a quite independent work, and has claims of its own to public attention. It is the division into separate books of the larger commentary edited by Bishop Ellicott under the name of the *New Testament Commentary for English Readers*. We have compared this edition of St. John's Gospel for schools with the first volume of the larger commentary, and find that the introduction to the Gospel in both editions is the same; the notes are also identical, and the explanatory matter added in the appendix. The smaller edition is somewhat more convenient than the larger, and should certainly have a circulation beyond the higher classes of secondary schools.

ENGLISH SCHOOL CLASSICS.—*Life of Nelson*. By ROBERT SOUTHEY. Edited by W. E. MULLINS, M.A. (Rivingtons). This is a book that deserved to be reprinted, but it is not adapted to class work, though it is offered as a reading book. It is well fitted for school libraries, and for prizes in elementary and national schools. The foot-notes are useful, and will interest an intelligent reader.

BLACKIE'S COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SERIES.—*Complete Primer—First, Second, and Third Readers—Newspaper Reader*. (London: Blackie and Son.) These readers are well worthy of the notice of teachers. They are constructed on a good plan, both as to the method of teaching to read, and the subject matter. Of the *Newspaper Reader* we cannot speak so highly. There is doubtless a necessity for general reading; but few leading articles deserve to be enshrined as models of style, and fewer still have any attractions for a boy. It is arranged chronologically, and presents a connected view of

important persons and events of this century, so that, considered historically, it is not without its value.

BRIEF NOTICES.

The Child's Life of Our Lord. By SARAH GERALDINE STOCK. (Marcus Ward and Co.) We opened this work—knowing how well the authoress can put in familiar and attractive form the work of God in the world—with an unusual feeling of expectation. No life of the Saviour, written for children, had ever satisfied us, although we have, we believe, read most of them. It is stated by Mr. Forster that Charles Dickens wrote one for his own children, but that has never been published; and, possibly, if it were, it would be as unsatisfactory as any of the others. This one is altogether weak. It is diffuse where it should not be diffuse, and its omissions indicate great want of judgment. The typographical "getting up" is good, and the engravings are pretty fair, but we still think that there is no life of our Lord so suitable either for children or for adults, as that in the New Testament. Neither the present, nor any other authoress, has improved upon it.

Twenty Plain Lectures on the Pilgrim's Progress. By ROBERT NOURSE. (R. D. Dickinson.) The author tells us that these lectures were delivered in Springfield, Illinois, some two years ago. The lectures on the same subject with which we are most familiar are those of Dr. Cheever, which were rather too pictorial and declamatory. These are very thoroughly prepared. Their characteristic is practicalness. They are lit up and enforced with numerous illustrations from home life and from history, and perhaps a better popular exposition of the "Pilgrim's Progress" has never been given. We are glad to see the author's quotation of "Eternal light! eternal light" from, as he says, "the immortal verse of Binney."

The New Testament Idea of Hell. By S. M. MERRILL, D.D., Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. (R. D. Dickinson.) This can scarcely be called a learned work, although it embodies some results of learning—whether taken at second-hand or not we can scarcely say. Dr. Merrill says that his book is written "for readers of the Scriptures, and not for those having access to the wide range of discussions found in the ponderous works on systematic divinity which crowd the libraries of the learned," and he proceeds, in plain words, to disclaim all originality. And there is no originality. The author dwells at great length upon the distinctions between "Hades," "Sheol," and "Tartarus," and the result of those distinctions. The final issue is stated in his own emphatic language. After scoffing at all "Liberalists," he says that there is nothing for unbelievers but the "damnation of Gehenna." Dr. Merrill seems to come to this conclusion with great satisfaction.

The Waldensian Church in the Valley of Piedmont. By the late JANE LOUISA WILLYAMS. Revised Edition. (Religious Tract Society.) This work is well known, and should be still better known. It was originally published, as is stated in a prefatory note, in 1854. It has now been well revised. The editor states that the proposal for a new edition was received by the writer when she was ninety-one years of age, but that, before it could be issued, she had passed into her everlasting rest. The book is an extremely accurate condensation of the history of the Waldensian Church—drawn from all kinds of sources. It is full of detail, and is characterised by many picturesque descriptions. We are unable to say, with precision, what Mrs. Matheson has done for the present edition, but the account of the present state of the Waldensian Church and its missions in Italy is new. The history of the existing Church occupies more than fifty pages, and will be found to be not the least interesting nor stimulating portion of this work.

John Pearce the Colporteur; or, What Shall we Read? By the Author of "Miss Grey's Text," etc. (Elliot Stock.) This is an original and well constructed narrative, illustrating the work of a colporteur in the country districts of England. It is good and readable.—*The Cornish Fisherman, Watch Night, and Other Stories* (Religious Tract Society) tell of the many successes of religious effort in various manners. On the whole the "Cornish Fisherman, etc." is the least admirable of these stories. We hope some parts of it are not true.—*My Scarlet Shawl; or, Out of Debt Out of Danger*, from the same publishers, is a capital tale for the poor of the unwisdom of having anything to do with the packman and his wares.—*Hugh Templar's Motto* (same publishers), by LOUISA EMILY DOBREE, is a book for boys, impressing the lesson of action according to

principle, honour, and Christian faith—a very good tale.—*The Home Life of the Prince Consort*, by the Rev. CHARLES BULLOCK, D.D. (Hand and Heart Offices), is on a subject now somewhat hackneyed. We dare say, however, that some persons may find something new in these pages, but we protest against the engraving on page 141. The book is what is termed "a compilation," and a very easy compilation it must have been.

CHURCH AND STATE IN SWITZERLAND.

An interesting debate occurred in the Great Council of Geneva on the 4th of this month, which was the first day of the extraordinary session of that body. The Council was specially summoned in order to receive the four reports on the question of the separation of the National Churches from the State. The subject was introduced by the great advocate of the movement, M. Henri Fazy. The majority of the Select Committee, as it appears from the reports, agree with this inheritor of a famous name in Genevan annals. M. Fazy proposes that all the churches and parsonages, Protestant and Catholic, shall be handed over to the ecclesiastical congregations, who will decide whether or not they are able and willing to maintain the charge of worship and of the clergy; every grant of State money for purposes of religion is to be abolished. The minority of the Select Committee, for whom M. Chenevirre appeared as spokesman, simply advised the postponement of the question to some undefined period. M. Carteret, on the ground that a large proportion of the members of the Great Council were absent on their military duties, suggested that the question should be reconsidered on the 27th of the month, after the completion of the autumn manoeuvres. M. Necker proposed a project of his own, according to which public worship should be maintained in future for the two Established Churches, Catholic and Protestant, by the addition of a very small tax to the existing communal taxes (*centimes additionnels*). The tax would be voluntary, however, and hence could hardly be called a tax; for the 49th Article of the Reformed Federal Constitution prohibits either cantons or communes from raising any obligatory tax for religious purposes, and frees every Swiss citizen from the obligation of paying taxes raised for churches or clergy. It is provided, however, that every member of the political commune—or inhabitants' parish—who refuses to pay any dues voted by the ecclesiastical commune—or church parish—must have his name struck off the electoral list of the latter. Dr. Bard, President of the Supreme Court of Justice in Geneva, and a member of the Old Catholic Church Council, spoke at great length, and with much fervency, against the separation of Church and State. He contended that, in the present condition of Geneva—and, indeed, of Switzerland and all Central Europe—it could only serve the Jesuits, who are striving to impose a universal Papal theocracy upon the people. The individual Churches, with their own mutual rivalries, are too weak, he contended, to withstand so powerful an international organisation. The State is the natural protector of culture, the school, private judgment, the smaller churches, and religious and domestic peace, against this omnipresent foe; and the State, for its own sake, should not desert its fellow-combatants. He suggested that the entire question should be placed before the whole people. It was agreed that extra copies of the four reports of the committee should be printed and widely distributed amongst the citizens of the Canton of Geneva.

ECCLESIASTICAL MISCELLANY.

The *Church Times*, an organ of the Ritualists, expresses the opinion that Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" is not much read now, and that its past popularity "proves nothing but the appalling dreariness of juvenile literature before the days of Sir Walter Scott!"

A CONTUMACIOUS DEAN.—The Dean of Grahamstown, South Africa, having refused the bishop the use of the cathedral pulpit, has been condemned for contumacy in the Diocesan Court, suspended from his functions until he submits, and deprived of its emoluments. The congregation at a subsequent meeting declared almost to a member in favour of the dean, and begged him to resist, offering to bear the expenses. He is resisting, it appears; the bishop's delegates fail to gain admission to the pulpit, and the result is a scandal.

THE IRISH UNIVERSITY ACT.—The Roman Catholic bishops have held a meeting, at which the four archbishops, Dr. Noran, Bishop of Ossery, and Dr. Woodlock, Bishop of Ardagh, were appointed as a committee to consider the position of the Catholic University with relation to the new University Act, and to report upon the best course to be taken by the bishops with reference to that measure. At the same meeting the constitution of the Senate of the new University formed a subject of discussion, and resolutions, which have not been made public, were adopted. It was hinted, however, that the bishops desired, through some of their body, to exert their influence in the Senate.

THE BELGIAN BISHOPS AND THE NEW SCHOOL ACT.—The Cardinal Archbishop of Malines has issued a circular completing his former instructions relative to the public schools. The parish priests are to inform the burgomasters that they cannot give religious instruction in the public schools.

They are to prevent the public from frequenting them and the teachers from continuing to teach in them, and to forbid the people of their parishes wishing to become school-teachers the entry in the public normal schools, inviting them to frequent the Catholic normal schools. In every parish at least one Catholic primary school is to be established. Catholic religious instruction by the priests being now prohibited, the Government will have to make use of the means mentioned in the new school laws for securing it for the pupils for whom it is desired.

THE PRAYER-BOOK.—Archdeacon Denison writes to one of the Church papers that two meetings of Churchmen who prefer to keep the Prayer-book as it is will be held in London, Thursday, Nov. 13, at Exeter Hall, 2 p.m.; at St. James's Hall, 7 p.m. The names of chairmen will be published with the resolutions in good time. The order of the meetings excludes—1. All comment upon the Prayer-book in whole or in part, favourable or unfavourable. 2. All controversial discussion of any portion of its contents. The object of them being simply to make collective demonstrations of weight and volume against the attempt to alter the Prayer-book now publicly in preparation, and, in important particulars of a formal character, already far advanced; and to declare that, regard being had to all the circumstances and conditions of the case, it is not expedient to make any such attempt at this time.

THE LAST SERVICES IN HAWORTH CHURCH.—On Sunday (the *Leeds Mercury* says) the closing services were held in Haworth Church (so strongly associated with the Brontë family), prior to its being razed to make way for a more modern structure. Overcrowding congregations attended both morning and evening, and scores of visitors had to be turned away for lack of room. The Rev. Mr. Mackay, curate, preached in the morning; the Rev. J. W. Pendleton, vicar of Oakworth, in the afternoon; and the Rev. J. Wade, incumbent, at night. The rector said in the course of his sermon that "it was through accident, and not of his own design, that this was the last service in the old church, and that he ended his eighteen years' ministry in it. It was the scene of many solemn remembrances, rendering it truly sacred. Might God grant on the building to be erected in its place a similar blessing to that which he bestowed upon the second temple of the Jews—that its glory should be greater than that of the first!" The village was crowded, and hundreds had to be turned away from the church doors, the building being full half-an-hour prior to the commencement of the service.

PROFESSOR ROBERTSON SMITH'S CASE came before the Free Presbytery of Aberdeen again last week. The libel, as amended by last Assembly, was read, the only particular remaining being that in reference to the Professor's views on Deuteronomy. In the course of a speech explanatory of his position, Professor Smith denied the charge that he held opinions respecting the inspiration of Deuteronomy contradictory of the Confession, but pointed out that there were difficulties connected with the authorship of this book which could not be settled by arguments such as had been used by Sir Henry Moncrieff and others on the opposite side. Eventually Professor Salmond moved that the Presbytery, considering the new matter which has merged in the case since the meeting of Assembly, resolve to "sist" procedure, and report the case to the Superior Court. It was moved, on the other hand, that the former motion was incompetent, and that the Presbytery proceed to the probation of the libel. On a division, Professor Salmond's motion was carried by 33 to 18, and probably little more will be heard about this interminable case till the meeting of Assembly in May next.

THE FALMOUTH RECTOR'S RATE.—There seems to be a prospect of a long-standing dispute respecting the rate paid to the rector of Falmouth being brought to an amicable settlement. A committee appointed some time ago to fully investigate the matter submitted on Tuesday night a long report to a general meeting of ratepayers. The committee recommend the payment of 8,000*l.* for the advowson, and 750*l.* a year as stipend to the rector. This was agreed to by the patron of the living. The 8,000*l.* would have to be paid by January, 1880, and could be borrowed and repaid in thirty years by a 4*d.* rate. A rate of 7*d.* in the pound would provide the annual stipend, and another 4*d.* rate, it was calculated, would pay the interest on the law costs and expense of collection, making altogether a 1*s.* rate, instead of 1*s.* 4*d.* in the pound, as now, and in thirty years' time the advowson would be the joint property of the town and parish. Unless these terms were accepted, the committee saw no alternative but to advise the mayor and aldermen to sign the rate as formerly. After a long discussion, the report was adopted by a large majority. It remains now for the governing bodies of the town and parish to decide whether or not they will accept the proposals of the committee.—*Times*.

POSITION OF THE JEWS IN ROUMANIA.—The Bucharest correspondent of the *Times*, telegraphing on Thursday, says:—"The anti-Jewish journals are becoming more violent as the time draws near for decisive action in the Chambers. Their articles are of the most incendiary character, and it is an open question whether their violence is the result of despair over their political prospects in the Chambers or of confidence that the masses are prepared to carry into effect their intemperate suggestions. The discussions will begin on Tuesday

next, and it is expected that they will continue for ten days before the senators and deputies come to a vote on the project laid before them by the Government for the settlement of the interminable Jewish question. It is certainly very strange, after all that has been written on this subject, that some of your contemporaries persist in comparing the condition of the Roumanian Jews of to-day with that of Isaac of York *vis-à-vis* Front de Boeuf. They own property in towns, and, with the exception of practising law and medicine, owning real estate in the country, and keeping shops in the country villages, they are as free as the air itself, and are, practically and generally speaking, as well off in every way as the foreign population in any European State. The false and even absurd statements made in Western Europe as to the condition of the Roumanian Jews have gone far towards arousing the bitter feeling prevalent there to-day with regard to the enfranchisement of the Israelitish population."

ROMISH "MIRACLES" IN FRANCE.—The recent pilgrimages to Lourdes and La Salette and the miracles which are alleged to have taken place there have called forth amongst the better class of French journals great indignation, and M. John Lemoine, the well-known writer in the *Journal des Débats*, makes the following remarks on this subject:—"A Catholic journal recently asked us whether we claimed alone to represent the true Church and religion. Such a question is puerile and not worthy of a reply. We do not ask for a new religion; we only ask that the old one should not be travestied and disfigured. It is now impossible to recognise the Christian religion in the fetishism and miracle warehouse which are sought to be imposed upon us. We have asked what has become of Jesus Christ, but we get no reply. We meet with Him nowhere. He is suppressed and deposed in order to make place for a religion of trickery, of bric-à-brac, and a toilette-maker. The Holy Virgin, whom Christians believe to be of heaven, like Madame Benôiton, is always out, and she goes out in order to walk about in the evening in the most extravagant costumes. Then we have St. Joseph's month, another new devotion; and we shall soon have months devoted to all the saints in the calendar. It is ridiculous to ask whether we want a new religion. It is they who are making a new one. If some Epiminides could have slept for the last thirty or forty years, and were now to awake, he would not be able to recognise the religion of his time in the monstrous mass of superstition, folly, theism, and idolatry under which it has been buried. We have been treated as impious, but it is as Christians that we attack this corruption and adulteration of the Christian religion."

MR. GLADSTONE ON ECCLESIASTICISM.—The following letter has been received from Mr. Gladstone by Alderman Green, Tynemouth, in reply to a letter headed "Gladstone's Ecclesiasticism," by Mr. C. K. Vickers, of Wolsington, Weardale, which recently appeared in a northern Conservative weekly newspaper. Alderman Green, seeing the letter, had forwarded a copy of the paper to the right hon. gentleman, who writes:—

Arley Hall, Cheshire, Sept. 8, 1879.
Sir,—I am about to go abroad, and on this account I think it better not to take up a controversy which I could not pursue. Nor am I sure what part of the letter you have sent me, by a Mr. Vickers, you consider to be deserving of notice. It recites, for instance, the abolition of the bishoprics in Ireland; but it was the act of Lord Derby, and I opposed it. In the Irish Church Act of 1869 we abolished no bishoprics, nor any spiritual office. The grant for education was entirely misrepresented by him. It draws no distinction, and is enjoyed as freely by one denomination as by another. No application of any sort was made by the late Government or any of its members to the Pope, but I remember such an application by a Conservative Cabinet for the Pope's aid, through his spiritual influence, in preserving the peace of Ireland. The Regium Donum and the Maynooth Grant did cease with the Established Church, and were dealt with on similar principles. Lord Kirkwall was not High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands. I never participated in any of the religious ceremonies of the country, except by attending to witness two ceremonies, neither of which was the Mass; but I dare say Mr. Vickers has different ideas of the respect due to the religion of the countries which we visit from those which I entertain; and I decline to discuss with him his foolish misrepresentations. They relate to a period twenty-one years back, and have been repeatedly disposed of, but perhaps it seemed to him that they might safely be revived. Mr. Vickers says his facts are grave. Unfortunately, so far as they touch me, they are for the most part not facts at all. You are at full liberty to give publicity to any part of the information supplied in this note.—I have the honour to be, sir, your faithful servant,
W. E. GLADSTONE.

DENOMINATIONALISTS AND THE SCHOOL BOARD SYSTEM.—We hear rumours of a change of policy on the part of the Anglican Church opponents of the School Board system. In the private councils of that party the question seems to have been seriously considered whether the representative advocates of the voluntary system against the Board school system may not at this juncture, and in the present position of the education controversy, serve their cause best by withdrawing from competition for seats on the large School Boards—or at least on those large School Boards where the denominational party are not likely to form a majority. In London, for example, if these indications prove correct, there will not be a battle all along the line between denominationalists on the one side and the School Board party on the other. An impression seems to exist that a denominational party on the London Board, unless it is either a majority or a very powerful minority, is a doubtful advantage to the

denominational cause. The question appears to have arisen whether it would not be better for the friends of the voluntary system in a manner to withdraw their countenance and co-operation from School Board work, and to devote all their energies to the strengthening of the fortress of the denominational school system outside, making the best of their position as a power having claims upon the consideration of Parliament and the Government in competition with the School Boards. We will not dwell upon the subject at this stage, while the evidence of the change of policy is vague, and while the future tactics of the party stand unrevealed. But we believe we have good grounds for saying as much as we have said, and we anticipate that some of the great School Board elections of the coming autumn, and particularly that in the metropolis, will be of a different character from the conflicts of former triennial periods, and will be fought on different issues.—*School Board Chronicle*.

THE DISESTABLISHMENT QUESTION IN CEYLON.—We are pleased to hear of the formation of a "Disestablishment Society" in Kandy, which has already got a good committee, including most of the leading proctors and other residents, with an active secretary. The society does not mean to be idle, for there is to issue under its auspices from the press within a few weeks a paper for distribution, entitled "Objections to the Ceylon Ecclesiastical Grants," which we have no doubt will put the matter in a proper and forcible light. A public meeting is also talked of, and we would suggest the preparation and adoption of a memorial to be placed in Mr. McArthur's hands. Our Kandy friends having of their own accord moved in this way, we trust their example will be followed at Galle, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and other centres, where the question excites interest among a considerable number of intelligent people. As a Kandy correspondent writing on the subject well says:—"The feeling here is very strong against our ecclesiastical magnates, and I fear not but that with a strong pull and a pull altogether we will upset the present arrangements" for the appropriation of general revenue to the payment of a bishop and archdeacon (apart from chaplains) who are avowedly engaged in doing all in their power to proselytise and to subvert the religion of the people whose money they are not ashamed to pocket. How these "right reverend" and "venerable" gentlemen can reconcile this procedure to their conscience it is more than we can say, but if they expect to get credit for self-denying missionary work under such circumstances they are much mistaken. In accepting here and in India, State pay, travelling allowances, precedence, ceremony (including salutes from big guns) and pensions, such "missionaries" may rest assured that they are doing the very worst possible service in the eyes of the natives to the Christianity whose promotion they profess to have most at heart.—*Ceylon Observer*.

HULME'S CHARITY AND MANCHESTER CAPITULAR REVENUES.—A Manchester correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* writes:—"In ecclesiastical and educational circles here there is considerable excitement regarding the scheme submitted by the Charity Commissioners to the Committee of Council on Education for the management of Hulme's Charity, and as to the Manchester capitular revenues. The property left by Mr. William Hulme in 1691, for the benefit of B.A.'s at Brasenose College, Oxford, originally worth about £40 a year, is now estimated variously at from £500,000 to £750,000. It was intended for the use of graduates who, having taken their B.A. degree, might not otherwise be able to continue their studies. As the value of property increased, successive Acts of Parliament have been passed increasing the exhibitions, and otherwise varying the trust, including the power of purchasing advowsons, of which the trustees have several valuable ones. The present scheme, after making provision for the original objects of the bequest, provides for the erection of a hall, to be called Hulme Hall, for the students of Owens College, and for exhibitions thereat, and for the erection of Hulme Grammar School for boys and girls, with the scholarships of £15 each for boys educated in the elementary schools of South-east Lancashire. The number of governors is fixed at fifteen, of whom three are to be *ex officio*—the Dean of Manchester, and the Rectors of Bury and Prestwich; two are to be appointed by Brasenose College, and six by the trustees of the Hulme estate; two by the Manchester City Council; and one each by the town councils of Bury and Oldham. The teaching is to be that of the Church of England, with a liberal conscience clause. It is against this provision mainly, and against the composition of the council, which they regard as too conservative, as also to the advowsons not being sold, that opposition is mainly directed, the Manchester City Council and other bodies petitioning against the scheme. There is little doubt, however, that in its main features it will be adopted. The other controversy practically resolves itself into one between the capitular and parochial clergy. The Estates Committee of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners having declined to augment the income of certain city benefices on the ground that the accounts of the chapter for the year 1878 do not exhibit a surplus much exceeding 13,870*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, charged permanently for the benefit of such livings, some of the clergy complain that it is not the income of the capitular estates which has fallen off, but that the expenditure has increased for the choir and other matters. The real question is whether the special Act of Parliament did or did not intend that the cathedral should be first efficiently provided for, and the surplus go to the

parish clergy, or whether only a fixed sum should be devoted to cathedral uses. The services of Manchester Cathedral are now rendered with great care, and an efficient administration naturally increases the expenses.

Religious and Denominational News.

ENGLISH CONGREGATIONALISM IN NORTH WALES.

FLINTSHIRE.—The quarterly conference of the English Congregational churches of Flintshire was held on Wednesday, Sept. 3, at Holywell, when delegates attended from Rhyl, Holywell, Bagillt, Mostyn, Flint, Greenfield, Northop, and other places. The Rev. David Oliver presided. An interesting discussion ensued on a paper read by the Rev. David Lantrow, of Flint, on the duty of the Christian Church towards the young, in which the Revs. T. Owen, D. B. Hooke, Fred. Barnes, B.A., Aaron Francis, and J. Davies took part. It was generally felt that, especially now, when Board schools are so general, the Christian Church should supplement the secular by religious teaching. Also that the connection between the Church and the school should be closer, the former having a greater control over the latter. The question of the special relationship of baptized children to the church was raised, and the Rev. A. Francis (Rhyl) promised to introduce the matter for discussion at the next meeting. Subsequently the revised rules of the North Wales Congregational Union were submitted. The next conference is to be held at Bagillt. The members partook of tea together, and at night public service was held in the church, when the Revs. F. Barnes, of Chester, and D. Burford Hooke, secretary of the North Wales Union, preached.

CARNARVONSHIRE.—The first half-yearly conference of the English churches of Carnarvonshire was held on Monday, Sept. 8, at Penmaenmawr. The Rev. D. P. Davies presided, and representatives were present from Colwyn Bay, Upper Bangor, Criccieth, Trefriw, Penmaenmawr, &c. Arrangements were made for the annual assembly of the North Wales Congregational Union at Upper Bangor in October, and the draft of the new constitution was approved. Reports were presented from various stations, and recommendations relative to several important openings were sent to the executive committee, which was represented by its secretary, the Rev. D. Burford Hooke.

DENBIGHSHIRE.—The quarterly conference for this county, which includes Mold and Buckley (Flints), was held on Tuesday, Sept. 8, at Mold. The Rev. W. Tiller (Penybryn, Wrexham), chairman of the District Union, presided. The sub-committee appointed to consider mission work in the county presented its report, and the executive of the North Wales Union was asked to sustain it by a grant from its funds. The draft of the alterations in the rules of the union rendered necessary to enable it to join the Congregational Church Aid Society was considered and approved. A report of the mission efforts at Northop was presented, and the plans for the new church exhibited, and general satisfaction was expressed with the same. It was agreed for the next meeting to be held at Penybryn, Wrexham, in December. At the close of the conference the delegates were entertained to tea in the Westminster-road Schoolroom, and at night sermons were preached at Mold by the Revs. W. Tiller and Henry J. Haffer, district secretary, and at Northop by the Rev. J. H. Hughes, of Cefn-mawr.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.—The first half-yearly meeting of the pastors and delegates of the Montgomeryshire District Union was held on Wednesday, Sept. 10, at Welshpool. In the morning the representatives visited the Powis Land Museum, which was opened to them free, and subsequently were entertained to dinner at the Temperance Hotel. The conference assembled in the afternoon, under the presidency of the Rev. R. Lumley, of Bwlchyfridd, chairman of the Union, who delivered his inaugural address. There was a large attendance of representatives, every English church in the county being represented. The Revs. B. Hooke, of Mold, and Josiah Jones, of Machynlleth, attended on behalf of the North Wales Congregational Union. The chairman, in his address, vindicated at some length the formation of the District Union Churches. It was resolved to visit every church for the purpose of securing accurate information as to their condition, with the view of rendering such aid to the weaker ones as may seem desirable, and the Rev. John S. Williams, of Welshpool, district secretary, undertook the same. It was also agreed that the lay preachers should be *ex officio* members of the District Union. The alterations in the rules of the North Wales Congregational Union rendered necessary by its joining the Church Aid Society were considered *seriatim*, and approved with certain alterations. It was agreed to hold the next meeting in February at Newtown. At night a public meeting was held in the church, under the presidency of Mr. John Phillips, of Newtown, when the claims of the Church Aid Society were advocated by the Revs. Josiah Jones, Burford Hooke, Thomas Jenkins, and others.

The Bishop of Madagascar has arrived in this country, and hopes to obtain 5,000*l.* for the erection of a permanent church at Antananaviro, the capital city of the country.

The next Merchants' Lecture will be delivered at the Weigh House Chapel on Tuesday next, Sept. 23, at noon, by the Rev. Dr. Kennedy—subject, "Elijah: or, the Cowardice of the Brave Man."

The Society of Friends have just completed a new meeting house in Half-Edge-lane, Eccles. This building has cost 1,500*l.*, and will seat 200 persons. Ground is reserved for a house, and if need should arise a school. The congregation is an offshoot from Mount-street, and has been meeting in the Conservative Hall.

American Methodism has recently lost one of its ablest ministers by the death of the Rev. T. B. Sargent, D.D. He accompanied Bishop Serle to England and Ireland in 1840, and for many years held various offices of importance in the connexion. His preaching powers were very great, so that he travelled on many of the leading circuits. He became a supernumerary in 1872, and has just passed away.

HARROGATE.—The fine Congregational church, schools, and manse in this town were erected at a cost of 12,000*l.* The whole of this amount was some time since obtained except some 600*l.*, which was cleared off early in the month by means of a bazaar.

THE CONGO MISSION.—By advices received on Monday last we learn that Messrs. Crudgington and Bentley, the advance party of the Congo Mission, have safely reached San Salvador. They have had a most gratifying interview with the king, who had sent down seventy carriers to meet them. His Majesty placed two pigs at their disposal, fired off fifty guns, and otherwise manifested his pleasure at their visit. We also learn that Mr. and Mrs. Comber and Mr. Hartland, together with the native evangelists of Victoria and Cameroons and the rest of the mission party, were within four days of San Salvador, and all enjoying perfect health.—*Freeman.*

BRADFORD.—On Thursday evening the Eastbrook Wesleyan Chapel was crowded on the occasion of the ordination of several missionaries, who will shortly proceed to their respective destinations. The names of the ministers who have given themselves up to this arduous work are the Rev. Thomas Little, for North Ceylon; the Rev. Thos. W. Winfield and the Rev. Geo. D. Mason, for West Africa; the Rev. Geo. Marris, for China; the Rev. Samuel Arnold, for Calcutta; and the Rev. F. W. Gostick, for Mysore. The impressive service was conducted by the Rev. E. E. Jenkins, M.A., and the Revs. E. Jackson, G. Dickenson, G. S. Rowe, J. A. Armstrong, and M. Hartley, Bradford; the Rev. R. Brown, Huddersfield; the Rev. A. Rayner, Bingley; and the Rev. G. Barnby, Keighley. The proceedings throughout were deeply interesting to the large congregation.

DR. TALMAGE.—On Sunday evening Dr. Talmage delivered a farewell address in the Circus, Liverpool, which was crowded to excess. No charge was made for admission, but early in the evening boxes were handed round and a collection made in aid of a fund for the erection of a "house of prayer at St. Helens." After referring to the "many kindnesses" he had received from the English people during his visit, and after reminding his audience that the present was probably the last time they and he would confront each other in this world, Dr. Talmage proceeded with his discourse, which was founded on part of Gen. vii. 1:—"Come, thou, and all thy house, into the ark." The sermon seems to have been in every way characteristic, to use a mild phrase. He appealed to his hearers to come into the ark, the gates of which were so wide that the round world might be "bowed into it without grazing the posts."

THE REV. JOHN PULSFORD.—As our readers are aware, among the unfortunate victims of the City of Glasgow Bank disaster was the Rev. John Pulsford, of Edinburgh, so well known not only as a quaint and original preacher, but also as the author of a thoughtful little book entitled "Quiet Hours." He is now somewhat advanced in life, and the bank failure deprived him of the provision which he had made for his family and his declining years. His friends in England are now engaged in getting up a testimonial to him, the treasurers and trustees of the fund being Mr. S. Morley, M.P., that liberal friend of every good cause, and Mr. Cowper-Temple, M.P. For some time past the committee have been receiving subscriptions privately; but as Mr. Pulsford has recently obtained his discharge from the liquidators, they now publicly invite subscriptions from friends and sympathisers. Their appeal is sure to meet with an exceedingly liberal response, not only from members of the two large congregations in Hull and London to which Mr. Pulsford ministered before going to Scotland, but from the many admirers of his writings scattered over the country.

OLTON, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Monday evening, Sept. 8, the new Congregational church in this place was opened by a dedicatory service, in which the following ministers and gentlemen took part—the Revs. E. Lawrence (Birmingham), G. Sears (Umberslade), J. Bainten (Acocks-green), W. F. Clarkson, B. A. Edgbaston, W. Clark (Olton), Alderman Manton (Birmingham), and H. Rudge (pastor). There was a very good attendance, and an impressive sermon was preached by Mr. Clarkson. Mr. H. Rudge and his friends are to be congratulated upon the result of their eighteen months' labour in this field. In March, 1878, the only means of grace in the neighbourhood was a cottage meeting, conducted by the students of Spring Hill College. A large room was then rented, fitted up, and opened for Divine service. A Sunday-school was established, and week evening services

begun. A congregation was thus soon gathered, considerable interest awakened, and subsequently a church was formed. After many difficulties had been overcome, the freehold site and the buildings thereon were purchased. Plans were obtained, and the result is a pretty little village chapel, capable of seating about 200 persons and fitted up with open pews. Underneath the chapel is a spacious schoolroom, suitable for Sunday and day schools, public meetings, &c. Attached to the chapel are vestries, outbuildings, and playground complete. The whole is lighted with gas. The total cost will be about 1,000*l.* The Rev. Dr. Simon, Spring Hill College, and the Rev. C. Leach preached last Sunday.

The Rev. NEWMAN HALL preached at Christ Church, Westminster-bridge-road, on Sunday morning for the first time since the hearing of his suit in the Divorce Court. The church was crowded. The rev. gentleman before the sermon gave a short address in reference to the late proceedings. At some time, he said, in some way or other, such a vindication would have been necessary, in consequence of charges which it was well-known had been circulated during many years—destructive to his ministry if believed, injurious while unfuted, and which, it was affirmed, the subject of them dared not meet—an inference which would have been in some degree justified if the opportunity unexpectedly presented had, contrary to legal advice, been neglected. And the stronger the motive might be supposed to be, so much stronger the inference that the neglect of the opportunity indicated conscious inability to disprove charges which vanished as soon as met. To any member of his congregation the trustees and elders of the church were prepared to give full explanations. He could appeal to his congregation after twenty-five years of pastorate, during which he had had to minister to individuals under all circumstances, whether any of them, husband, or parent, or brother, had ever had occasion to complain that the limit of gentlemanly deference and Christian purity towards all, of every rank and age, had ever been overstepped. It was not his purpose, by speech or pen, to make any further allusion to these matters, but so much as this he felt due to the congregation who honoured him with their continued confidence and Christian affection. The rev. gentleman then proceeded with his sermon, taking for his text the portion of Ephesians iii. 8, comprising the words used at the close of his address, "The unsearchable riches of Christ." At the close of the service a large crowd assembled outside the church to see Mr. Newman Hall leave. He, however, evaded them by quitting the building through a private door.

FAREWELL SERVICE OF THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.—On Sunday evening week one of the largest meetings that has yet been held in Basle, in connection with the Alliance gatherings, filled every corner of the Vereinshaus. The object of the meeting was to afford representatives of various countries an opportunity of saying farewell to each other on the close of the conference. It is estimated that nearly 2,000 persons were present. Professor Riggensbach cordially thanked the brethren who had come to this old city from various parts of the world, and cherished the hope that the great lessons which they had learnt during the week would not soon be forgotten. He hoped the zeal of all would be kindled afresh and that they would do with all their hearts the work which they had undertaken for their Lord. He begged all to be faithful to their own work whatever position in the Church of Christ might have been assigned to them. The Rev. W. Arthur, in a very genial address, thanked the citizens of Basle, on behalf of the secretary and the honorary secretaries of the English branch, for the hospitality they had received. It was the general opinion that the reception and the kindly hospitality shown them had been hearty and noble. Professor Godet also expressed his grateful sense of the hospitality which so many guests had received. Basle had really paid the large debt which the whole of Switzerland, he believed, felt to be owing to the Alliance. The old city, with its "Mission-street," had been peculiarly appropriate for such a gathering as that which had just been held, and he trusted that the blessing which visitors had received would return to their friendly hosts a hundredfold. Count Bismarck Bohlen earnestly hoped that none would soon forget the important lessons which they had had the opportunity of hearing during this important gathering of Christians of all nations. He begged all to be zealous in the work of the Lord, and to do with their might what they had undertaken for Him. A parting prayer was then offered, and, the benediction having been pronounced, the seventh General Conference was closed.

ORDINATION OF A MISSIONARY.—On Sept. 10 a very interesting religious service and ceremony took place at Redland-park Independent Church, Bristol, in the presence of a large congregation. The occasion was the ordination of Mr. J. H. Lewis, late senior student of the Bristol Congregational Institution, to the ministry, and his dedication to the missionary field of labour in New Zealand. A hymn having been sung and prayer offered by the Rev. H. Harries, M.A., the Rev. U. R. Thomas said that their sympathies would accompany Mr. Lewis, who was about to proceed to New Zealand as a missionary. For three years he had been a member of that church, and they all hoped he would receive from above strength for the work he had undertaken. The Rev. T. B. Knight then read an appropriate portion of the New Testament, after which a hymn was sung. The Rev. W. S. H. Fielden, secretary to the Colonial Missions

Society, gave an interesting account of New Zealand. There could, he said, be no doubt that there was a great future in store for this Great Britain of the South, with its splendid climate, situation, and resources. Passing on to deal with the position of the Church, the speaker said the spirit of denominationalism was almost powerless, the residents being quite prepared to pay for manly and frank Christian teaching, not only with their money, but with their affection, but they had no sympathy with mere outward show or pretence. Their dear brother, no doubt, would find himself amongst a polyglot population, but there would be many opportunities for him. There were several healthy churches already established, who were doing their best; but then there were large tracts of country which needed missionaries as much as China, India, and other heathen countries. In these districts there were large numbers of their fellow-countrymen who required the Gospel, and if the churches in England only awoke to their responsibilities and sent out men and money the results would be very great indeed. The Rev. J. P. Allen put the usual ordination questions to the candidate, and these having been satisfactorily answered, Mr. Lewis was formally recognised as one suitable to hold the position of a minister and missionary. The congregation then followed the Rev. U. R. Thomas in earnest prayer, and the Rev. Rees Morgans, of St. Clears, M. Lewis's pastor, then delivered the charge, which he based upon 2 Cor. iii. 6, "Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament."

Colleges and Schools.

HACKNEY COLLEGE.

The inaugural meeting of the session at this college was held on Wednesday evening last. The Principal, the Rev. Dr. McAll, presided, and after devotional exercise an address to the students was delivered by the Rev. Clement Clemance, D.D., of Cambridge.

Dr. CLEMANCE, in addressing the students, after some introductory remarks, said he would venture to speak out certain convictions as to what their work as students was hereafter to be—convictions which had been growing in strength year by year. Looking back on a quarter of a century of study—looking round on the present demands made on the Christian minister, and glancing forward at the controversies which were likely to rage during the next twenty-five years—there was one specific work which, over and above all else, would be demanded of them, i.e., to expound the Book of God. That would not, of course, be their only ministerial work. They would have to lead as well as feed the flock: to organise Christian work in the churches, to understand and take part in the religious and philosophical movements of the times. But the department of their work on which he now spoke was of such importance that failure in it could not be compensated by success in any other department. The watchword he would use then was "Expound," "Expound," "Expound." As Mr. Binney once said, "What we want is not great thinkers, but great expositors." "A great thinker standing in front of the Bible may be a great nuisance." If, when they were supposed to be ambassadors for Christ, they showed up themselves instead of holding up the message of their Lord, and gave out their thoughts to their people rather than the truth of God, they would be an offence to them. In sketching the course which should be pursued by one who was resolved to become an expositor, he would note some of the principles on which he would proceed and some methods he would naturally adopt. It would be an axiom with him that the Scriptures contain the revelation of the Divine will on the highest and grandest of all subjects, and he would have to be prepared to give reasons for that conviction, to open up in detail what that conviction was and defend it if need be before sceptic and scoffer. If they would have a faith in that Book which no assaults of human learning could imperil, there must be a faith which no equipments of human learning could ensure. Theirs must be the faith of men alive unto God, who "discern" spiritual truths, who feed on them, and thereby gain life and power, while not fearing to examine the earthen vessel in which they were put. As exponents of the Divine revelation contained in that Book, they must find out exactly what the Spirit of God intended them to learn by careful and laborious study of the text of Scripture. In the early process of ascertaining the Divine meaning of a text, they would have to examine, may-be, word by word, then the connecting links between words, then phrase by phrase, then the whole verse in connection with the context, the context in connection with the chapter, the book in its relation to the analogy of the faith. While all that preliminary work was going on there might be a huge exegetical apparatus before the student's eye; and much labour in examining, comparing, criticising, sifting, might put the mind on tension even to weariness, and yet all was absolutely necessary if exactitude would be ensured. That one principle recognised would cause their work to stand out in direct contrast to that kind of work which was a thing of shreds and patches, and guard them against the sacrilege of indefinite and nebulous talk for God which defined nothing, cleared up no difficulty, led nowhere, and left nothing but weariness behind. It would also act as a preservative to a Christian teacher against mental exhaustion, for no one who had qualified himself to be an

exponent of the Book would be exhausted until he had exhausted it. And he would soon feel that life was too short a compass to bring out all he saw in that Book. He would also learn that instead of the Bible being behind the age, it was immeasurably in advance of it. Any man who was living in communion with God, and who in the spirit of faith made it his life-long work to search into the hidden treasures of that Book, would grow in the strength of his conviction that the best and noblest of men was but following with tardy steps towards the goal of glory which was set forth therein. He had no words adequately to express his overpowering conviction of the immeasurable heights of the Divine thoughts of that Book. In order to expound Scripture a student must know it, and how much there was for them to acquaint themselves with ere they were "thoroughly furnished" for their work. The Book of which they were to be the unfolders touched human life, history, and thought at many points. They must know where and how, and hence science, literature, history, philosophy, and all surrounding and auxiliary studies should as far as possible be theirs. If, as had been said, there was nothing so much needed in our literature as theology rewritten on the basis of a sound exegesis (both of Old Testament and New), he would add to that another statement, that there was nothing more important for the pulpits of the future than that those who occupied them should furnish their hearers with clear expositions of truth, based on an exegesis equally sound and thorough. Such studies would occupy their lifetime, and they would be continually discovering that beneath all word-study, and over and above all that scientific scholarship could do for them, there was something in the Book that could be shown them, not by man, but by the teaching of the Holy Ghost. Often, when on their knees, crying out in agony, "More light, Lord," beams of glory would shine on them and on the Book which would attest themselves as born of God. They needed scholarship and culture, but those would not do everything. They could not expound the Book unless they knew the soul of it, and not all the critical rules in the world could qualify them for teaching the Book unless their spirit had come into contact with the Spirit of God for His light and fire! They had to be expositors of God's truth to man, and must therefore know not only how to draw truth out of the Book into their own hearts, but also how to get it from their own souls into others. Hence they must aim at commending themselves to every variety of conscience of men in the sight of God, and must, therefore, seek to know man both on his moral and spiritual and his scientific side. They must have a knowledge of the hidden thinkings of unsanctified men which exalt themselves against the knowledge of God, setting the puny reason of man against the higher reason of God. To meet such cases the expositor wanted thoughts clear as the light, and words pointed as steel, swift as lightning, and, if need be, "terrible as thunder."

In seeking to qualify himself for such work, the chief methods the student would have to do with were:—Preparing materials for his use, preparing himself to use his materials, and giving out the product thereof when called to public service. He must bring all the helps put in his way to bear upon his specific work. Everything which could be laid hold of in literary, philosophic, historical, scientific teaching—whatever would best teach God and best interpret man should be eagerly studied. The weight of an expositor's words would very largely depend on his collection of materials of knowledge, which he must select and arrange himself. In the selection of books he would advise them to be very dainty: one first-class book on a given subject would be worth more than half-a-dozen inferior ones. As a rule, it was far better to have a commentary on a Gospel or Epistle by one who had spent years on its study than a commentary by any one man who had ventured to cover the ground of the whole Bible. With such priceless works as those of Ellicott and Lightfoot and the like on the New Testament, and Kalisch, Delitzsch, Keil, and others on the Old Testament, it would be something discreditable if their rising ministry lagged behind in expounding the Sacred Word on the basis of a sound exegesis. Order in the arrangement of material was all but as important as wisdom in their selection. The student's material would not only be found in books, but in men. All society should be full of lessons to him—the events of family, social, church life, and daily occurrences would ever be opening up instruction to him. While books would be his counsellors men would be to him as books, and thus his course might be one steady, calm, uniform, patient accumulation of thought and knowledge, gathered together as under the eye of God for the service of the Church of God.

There would also be the preparation of himself for his work. Very much of what a man was to be depended on himself, on the deliberate purpose to be all that God has given him the power to be. No college could make a man. More depended on himself than on anyone else, and the more he did for himself the more would others be to him and for him. He must therefore cultivate himself. He was to be the organ of the Holy Ghost, and it would be a difficult thing for him to discourse heavenly music if every pipe was out of tune. For the sake of Him whose truth he had to proclaim he must be fitted for the Master's use in body, soul, and spirit. The supreme requirement was that he be filled with the Holy Ghost.

Having prepared material and prepared himself, the next step naturally followed, viz., giving out of that material to others. In doing that he would be no slavish copyist, no echo of other men's opinions. By dint of calm, earnest, thorough work, the materials he has used will have become transmuted to the bone, muscle, and sinew of his own mental life, and he would be able to pour out of his mind and heart thought rich and ripe—even Divine thought paid out from one who had studied the Divine Word in full heart-sympathy with the Redeemer and His redemptive work. Supposing him, then, to have equipped himself with all that was needful to make the skillful exegete, and to be fairly launched in his work, then in giving out to his congregation expositions of the Divine Word he might find it helpful to have one or two courses of continuous exposition always on hand, and if he steadily plods on through book upon book of the sacred volume he would meet with an abundant reward. He would discover mines of wealth, save time in searching for texts, assure mental discipline, and be led to touch on themes of the utmost importance in pulpit teaching which otherwise might be deemed personal. They would be led as they went through book after book to declare the whole counsel of God, and by faithful exposition they would come to make their own theology. By making exact exposition the basis of their pulpit preaching they would avoid the too common error of the unskillful and untaught, of so divorcing a text from the context as to throw upon it a hue which was not its own, and to draw from it lessons which it was not designed to teach. He attached very great value to the continuous exposition of the Old Testament as well as of the New. Their great aim must be to speak out what the Lord had spoken, and to learn the best and most effective way of instilling it into the souls of others. They might find great help by studying the great preachers and speakers of past days, and by learning the secret of any special power they might have possessed. Not that they might imitate them. Mimics never thrive. They must be themselves, but yet they might learn from others, and, if possible, catch each one's excellencies without anyone's defects! See how the Puritan divines "opened up" the text, as they called it. The massiveness of Owen, the logic of Charnock, the philosophic calmness and lofty, clear, rapt intuition of John Howe (never, so far as he had yet known, at fault in his exegesis), the pithy tenderness of Sibbes, the historic illustrativeness of Brooks, the wit of Adams, would furnish them with numberless illustrations of great preachers being great expositors. Yet every man in his own order. There were two remarkable men, who both visited them from the Atlantic—Mr. Moody and Mr. Finney. The two pictures which those two men present was in many points one of the most striking contrasts he knew in the history of pulpit power. Moody was rough, almost rude, unlettered; Finney was polished, refined, and cultured. One had the power of vivid imagination and abounded in illustrations; the other had great dialectic skill and power of hard reasoning. One assumed sinfulness, the other proved it. One with pathos appealed to the emotions, the other by argument reached the conscience. One showed up the cross and said "Look there!" the other dissected the heart and said "Look there!" One pointed to the love of God, the other to His righteousness; one urged to acceptance and invited to peace, the other urged submission and contrition. The one said there was nothing to do but to believe, the other there was nothing until they repented. The one said, Cast all upon Christ; the other, Lie low in the dust before Him. The starting-point of the one was the mercy of God, and the other His justice. The one revealed Christ, inspired hope, and induced trust; the other revealed self and induced deep and overpowering conviction of sin. The one had no theological system, the other had a theological system open to criticism. The preaching of the one told on the rude and uncultivated, and was fitted for the highways and hedges; that of the other on the trained intellect, and was more suitable for the walls of the Academy. While both were of strong conviction, both expositors of God's truth from their points of view, both insisting on the thoughts of men bowing before the thoughts of God, both strong in faith, both awfully in earnest, and both amazingly blessed, both spake as though they had a message from God to men, and their whole soul was intent on making the message pierce the heart. It was matter for intense regret that some who like to be thought broad are too narrow to find room in their sympathies for men of such diverse types. The Church ought to be broad enough to rejoice in every faithful worker on whom God sets his seal, and the most any man could do was to set forth the Gospel "as much as in him is." Some of them were just beginning their course, others were in the midst of it, and some looked on with high hopes and ardent aspirations to their first pastorate. Might they resolve that nothing should be lacking on their part that they might be all that God had given them the power to be! Since they last met Dr. Brown, John Graham, Dr. Mullens, Mr. Dodgshun, had been called home. The churches were looking to them to fill up the vacant places. The standard-bearers were falling, but they were going in their hearts with the high and holy resolve that that standard should not be permitted to slip from their grasp until God bade them resign it. Wherever their post of honour might be, where they should fight and where they should fall, was known only to the great Captain of Salvation,

who assigned to each his place and time for war and rest. Whether they received the summons while working at home or abroad it mattered not, whether any record of their life be written by any human pen was of small import, the Book of record was kept on high, and when that book was opened might their names be found written with those who had been "faithful unto death."

Principal McALL said he felt how inadequate would be any formal expression of thanks to Dr. Clemance for his admirable and thoughtful address but he would have their thanks and those of the committee.

The proceedings were closed with prayer by the Rev. J. Nunn and the benediction.

BRISTOL BAPTIST COLLEGE.

Following the two days' conference of former students at the Stoke's Croft Institution, the address to the present students was delivered on Thursday morning at Broadmead Chapel, Bristol, by the Rev. W. SAMPSON, of Folkestone, his subject being mission work, especially the wide field open in India. In that empire, he stated, they had at present fewer labourers actually in the field than for years past, and instead of being able to open up new fields they could hardly retain those which they had long held. Unless they had speedy and great reinforcements, he did not know how they could sustain the work already begun. Half a million of the people were now nominally connected with the Christian Church, but the masses were untouched. Districts containing millions and towns of 100,000 inhabitants were still without a single missionary of any denomination, or any resident professing Christian. Slight as the missionary progress in India might be considered in relation to the vast work remaining to be done, even the tabulated results were great in proportion to the agency which had been employed. Since 1850, when the Christian community numbered 170,000, those who were most competent to form a trustworthy opinion said the number had now increased to half a million, and the work would be recorded as amongst the most glorious in the annals of the Christian Church. Many of the men who had helped to bring about these blessed results went forth from the Bristol College; till lately the college supplied a considerable proportion of the missionaries, and at a meeting in Calcutta he once counted no less than eight from that institution—all of them men who would adorn any college.

The annual meeting of the college was afterwards held in the chapel, Mr. W. Sherring presiding. The Rev. RICHARD GLOVER, secretary, then read the report. It referred to the resignation of his post as assistant theological tutor of the Rev. J. E. Greenhough, who had accepted a pastorate at Leicester, in consequence of which the committee decided to arrange with suitable persons for brief courses of lectures on church history, or pastoral theology, or other kindred subjects during the period in which Dr. Gotch was absent on Bible Revision work. It was stated that the benefits expected from the variety and excellence of the teaching at the Bristol University College had been fully realised; and the committee congratulated the college on the equipment thus secured for prosecuting its teaching work. Notwithstanding the general depression, the income has only fallen 40% below the expenditure, and it was hoped the deficit would be met this year. The scheme for maturing a large addition to the library still remained to be carried out. As to the students, the committee reported the satisfaction they had had in connection with the conduct, the work, and the preaching acceptabilities of the students. Seven of the eight students admitted last session passed their probationary period with the approval of the president and tutor, the eighth (Mr. Compton) having to withdraw before the conclusion of the three months' term on account of ill-health. Five students had been settled, with every prospect of usefulness, and six others had been admitted for the usual term of probation.

The Rev. Dr. GOTCH, president of the college, then presented his report on the theological, Greek Testament, Hebrew, logic, and other work of the year. He added that Mr. Compton, the student referred to in the general report, was now in Canada, and with improved health hoped to return to the college. Dr. Gotch also explained that the students had attended lectures on classics, mathematics, natural science, political economy, and other subjects at the University College. He did not know when he had to report a more creditable examination. Though there had been more work done in the classical and mathematical departments than was accomplished in former years, it had not diminished the work done in the theological department or the interest evinced by the students. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN, on behalf of Mr. E. S. Robinson, treasurer, read the financial statement, showing that the total income for the year amounted to 1,774*l.*, and the balance due to the treasurer had increased from 164*l.* to 202*l.* He thought all the reports except this were satisfactory. Two years ago the trustees were authorised to sell out some stock, and unless something was done this would be absolutely necessary, as the balance must be reduced.

The Rev. C. DANIELL moved the adoption of the report and accounts. The Rev. I. BIRT (Devizes) heartily seconded the motion. The reports having been adopted, the Rev. J. J. BROWN (Birmingham) moved a vote of thanks to Mr. E. S. Robinson, treasurer, and the Rev. Richard Glover, secretary,

for their services during the past year, and that they be requested to continue their services for the ensuing year, together with a committee whom he nominated. Mr. E. BURTON (Clevedon) seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

Various other votes of thanks were passed, including a vote to the trustees of the Baptist Fund for their grant of 220*l.* It was also decided, on the motion of Dr. GOTCH, that the Rev. G. D. Evans be requested to undertake the duties of librarian and financial secretary.

PUBLIC MEN ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Mr. Grant-Duff, M.P., on Thursday night addressed his constituents in the Corn-market Hall, Elgin. The hon. gentleman said that when he addressed the constituents a year ago he said the first thought of all good Liberals should be to get the government of the country back into the hands of men who were in sympathy with the sober reason of the community. He was glad to see that that view appeared to be generally held in the North, and that the contest which was now going on was being waged on the broad issue—are we to be governed in accordance with the principles of the late or the present Administration? His chief objections to the present Government were, first, that they had lowered the pulse of the nation. Nowhere did they observe that buoyant, confident hope as of a people going on from strength to strength which marked the period which intervened between the general election of 1868 and the first check received by Mr. Gladstone's Government in the session of 1873. Then the present Government had brought us to distrust the word of Ministers. Formerly, for a Minister to hoodwink Parliament was considered a very grave matter; but now it seemed to be almost erected into a maxim of Government that he should do so whenever it was convenient. His third objection was that the present Administration had vulgarised politics. Fourth, that they had tampered with the Constitution by unduly using the power and prerogative of the Crown. Fifth, that they had lost the power of using the House of Commons as an instrument of legislation. Sixth, that they had allowed to grow up a terrible arrears of legislation; and his seventh and last objection was a pretty sweeping one—namely, that Her Majesty's present advisers had governed the Empire abominably. In order to make good this last statement the hon. gentleman referred in detail to the army, which had obtained but indifferent success in South Africa, to the navy, and to the management of the national finances. The friends of the Government admitted that they spent a great deal of money, but alleged that they had a distinct foreign policy, while the Liberals had none. Was it at all likely that this should be so? Of course, anything that could be called a policy must be built on knowledge. They could not have in a Cabinet more knowledge of foreign affairs or of anything else than was possessed by its individual members. Lord Salisbury, the Foreign Secretary, was a man who had taken a great deal of pains with himself, who thought quickly on his legs, which was a very laborious thing, and who had a certain acquaintance both with French and German. He (Mr. Grant Duff) had, however, observed, while watching him carefully ever since his Oxford days, this peculiarity about him, that no sooner had Lord Salisbury expressed a strong opinion upon foreign affairs than destiny had instantly shown that its view was entirely different. He it was who, in the teeth and the advice of all the most experienced men, insisted upon sending an envoy to Cabul. They all remembered how he tried to seduce Lord Northbrook from the straight path on the matter, and they all remembered how entirely and ignominiously he failed. Lord Northbrook, however, came home, and Lord Lytton was sent out. India and all that related to it were utterly unfamiliar to him. He accepted, of course, the views of his superior, and worked only too zealously. They saw what had come of it already, but God only knew what was yet to come before they were out of this new complication. It was on Lord Salisbury above any man in the world that the responsibility rested for all that had happened. The blood that had been shed had been as really shed by him as if he had slain with his own hand the unhappy men who had been massacred. His obstinate, wicked folly had been their death-warrant. But Lord Salisbury, who was just clever enough to be ingeniously wrong, was the only person in the whole Cabinet, as at present constituted, whom any party who knew the A B C of personal politics would put forward as having any knowledge about foreign affairs at all, for it was perfectly notorious that the Prime Minister had been one of the most home-keeping of human beings, and would never have even pretended to give consideration to foreign matters except in their purely Parliamentary and party aspects. If, then, we had merely known the names and antecedents of the members of the present Cabinet we should have expected them to make a mess of foreign affairs. This natural expectation had not been disappointed. In five years they had, while thoroughly disgusting the Turk, made our name a very bye-word amongst the Christian population of the Eastern Peninsula. If there was one country in the world where it was of great importance for us to have a predominant influence that country was Lower Egypt. The Government had so managed their business that they admitted France

into partnership with them in Egypt, and had hampered the action of this country therefor a long time to come. It was a maxim of English statesmanship that we should avoid having a land frontier with any European Power. In five years the present Government had succeeded in getting us a land frontier with Russia in Asia Minor, and in all but giving us one with Russia in Central Asia. They had inflicted upon us those calamities without rhyme or reason, through pure, unmitigated blundering. The Liberals, he asserted, had a very distinct and a very good foreign policy. Their foreign policy was founded on an anxious desire to keep England at peace, while they so husbanded their resources as to enable her to act with the greatest possible promptitude and effect in war, if she ever required to do so. He was not rash enough to say that the foreign policy of the Liberals had been invariably perfect. He freely admitted that in one respect the late Government made a serious error. It did not take sufficient pains to seem right in its management of foreign affairs, although it took much pains to be right.

Mr. S. Laing, M.P., has issued an address to the electors of Orkney and Shetland, stating that he intends, whenever a general election takes place, to ask them for a renewal of the trust they had on former occasions accorded him. He agreed with Mr. Gladstone that the issue which the nation would have to decide was one of immense importance—the approval or disapproval "of the new-fangled Imperial foreign policy of Lord Beaconsfield's Government." A "spirited foreign policy," as it was called, was a very expensive luxury. If last year's Ministerial crisis had ended by the resignation of Lord Beaconsfield instead of Lord Derby, the difference in cost of the two policies would have resulted in a saving to England of 12,000,000*l.*, and to India of 3,000,000*l.* That was the lowest estimate. It was a grave thing, after years of surpluses and building up the almost unexampled fabric of our financial policy, to find ourselves driven to the shifts of Imperial France. Budgets mystified by the old device of showing a small surplus on ordinary against a long deficit on extraordinary expenditure; estimates useless for any purpose of control, because they were sure to be falsified by supplemental charges; the substance of the whole thing always being that we had spent more than our income, and did not like to confess it by adding to the national debt, or to meet it by taxation as long as there was a chance of tiding it over a general election by renewing bills and signing short-dated promises to pay. With India the matter was so serious that with five years more of such rule the English taxpayer would have to face the question whether India should become bankrupt or the taxpayer at home submit to further burdens. Whilst he found a constituency anxious to record its emphatic condemnation of a policy which has brought so much disaster and disgrace on the British name he would be wanting in his duty if he failed to afford them an opportunity of recording that opinion by returning at the general election one who, to the best of his ability, has uniformly done what he could to assert the foreign policy of Canning against that of Castlereagh, of Gladstone against that of Beaconsfield.

Dr. John Todhunter is writing a book on Shelley.

An account of the life and writings of Henry Thomas Buckle, by Mr. Alfred Henry Huth, will shortly be published by Messrs. Sampson Low and Co.

The Anglo-Indian authorities are evidently determined not to tolerate the independent observation of professional and civilian war correspondents if they can help it. The Press Commissioner has issued the following notice:—"Government will not allow non-combatant gentlemen or staff officers as correspondents, but regimental officers may correspond with newspapers."

The very sudden death of Mr. G. T. Metzler from paralysis, in Scotland, where he was on a tour, on the 1st inst., will, says the *Athenaeum*, bring into the commercial market the extensive music publishing business carried on in Great Marlborough-street under the firm of Metzler and Co.

A memorial of Thomas Clarkson is to be erected between Ware and Royston, on the spot where, forty-five years ago, Clarkson resolved to devote his life to the abolition of the slave-trade.

It is stated that Alexander Dumas is engaged on a sensational novel directed against the Jesuits.

The special edition of the "Survey of Western Palestine," issued for two hundred and fifty subscribers, has been entirely taken up. The first volume is now in the press, and may be expected to be ready early in the year. It will contain the memoirs of the first six or seven sheets of the map, with an introduction by the chairman of the Executive Committee, Mr. Hepworth Dixon, sketching the general history of the society from its foundation, and an account of the scientific methods of the survey.

PAST PRAYING FOR.—A country vicar, a Sunday or two since, omitted to pray for "The High Court of Parliament at this time assembled," and in the vestry, at the close of the service, the churchwarden, with becoming delicacy, approached the question. "Parliament is prorogued, I see," he said. "Not that I know of," observed the vicar. "I thought it must be, for you didn't read the prayer for it this morning." "Oh," replied the vicar, smiling, "I left it out on purpose; the fact is, the present Parliament's past praying for."—*Sheffield Independent.*

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N.B. The lecture, together with letters to the "Daily News" on the "English Agricultural Labourers in New Zealand," and other interesting matter relating to New Zealand, with eight full-page illustrations, may be had post-free for twelve stamps. Apply as above.

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"The defect Mr. Marten's Act professes to remedy is undeniable. If the existence of Mr. Osborne Morgan's Burials Bill, with the angry passions it has stirred, could for a moment be forgotten, the general outline of the arrangement this Public Health Act Amendment Act proposes would have naturally recommended itself. Were Mr. Osborne Morgan's Bill passed to-morrow, such a measure would still be necessary."—The Times.

The Past Session. It is a remarkable fact that although "The Burials Question" (i.e., the attack on the Churchyards) has been before Parliament some twenty years, and although the late session has witnessed the introduction of no less than six measures on this subject, it has been nevertheless signalled by the passing of a very simple bill, introduced by Mr. Marten, M.P., extending the Public Health Acts to the provision of Cemeteries; these Acts, strange to say, having stopped short at the provision of "Mortuaries" for the reception of the dead.

Burial is now, as it should be, recognised as a Sanitary Question; a principle for the introduction of which the Conservative Government, by their Bill of 1877, deserve all credit.

The principle for which "The Society for the Rejection of the Burials Bill" has all along contended is now therefore sanctioned by Parliament.

What is Mr. Marten's Act? The new Act incorporates the Cemeteries Clauses Act, 1847, and is to be construed as one with the Public Health Act 1875. In proceeding therefore under it, reference need only be made to these two Acts.

The Sanitary State of our Churchyards. It is surely quite unnecessary to say much on this point; the Churchyards speak for themselves. Can anything be more disgusting than the way the nation has gone on for so many centuries? It is a scandal and disgrace to our boasted civilisation.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1879.

THE WEEK.

THE daily telegrams from Simla are read with profound interest, although the substance of them is vague gossip from the Indian bazaars. But something more reliable is to be found in the statements of a sepoy trooper, named Taimur, who was present at the massacre of the British Envoy and his escort, and managed to escape to Lundi Kotal. According to his version of the dastardly act, Sir Louis Cavaignari, while defending the Residency, was severely wounded in the forehead, and two appeals for help made by Mr. Jenkins, the Secretary of the Embassy, to the Ameer were not responded to, partly, it is supposed, in consequence of previous differences relative to the treatment of English partisans under the amnesty clause of the treaty. It is not clear from this narrative whether Mr. Jenkins fell with the rest or is in concealment under friendly guardianship. An official telegram reports that the attack was "apparently unpremeditated," and that "no serious attempt at relief was made beyond preventing other troops [than the three regiments from Herat] from taking part." The Indian Government are naturally slow, in the present stage of affairs, to assume the complicity of Yakoub Khan.

The Viceroy has little to say in his telegraphic reports of the present disposition of the Ameer and the Afghan tribes, beyond reports of great grief and fresh protestations from the former. But of the hostile attitude of the Mohmunda, who live near to Dakka, and have occupied that position so as to challenge the British advance, there is little doubt, and the Ghilzais are believed to have also declared against us, while it is reported that the mutineer regiments are already in possession of Jellalabad. General Roberts, who appears to have already reached the Shutargardan Pass, has demanded large reinforcements—an ominous sign. He reports that a column has pushed on towards Kushi, on the road to the capital, and will in a few days occupy that position—just forty-five miles from Cabul—the neighbouring tribes appearing to be friendly and promising transport and supplies. Referring no doubt to the Khyber Pass, another telegram from Simla states that "the attitude of the hill tribes continues to be suspicious, despite the expressions of friendliness that have been conveyed." In fact opposition may be expected on the very threshold of our "scientific frontier."

It is stated that a committee with objects framed upon lines similar to those of the Afghan Committee, with which the late Lord Lawrence was identified, is being formed in the metropolis for the purpose of holding, either in Exeter Hall or St. James's Hall, a great meeting to pronounce upon the foreign policy of the Government, especially with reference to the crisis in Afghanistan. The committee will not be confined to metropolitan members, but will embrace those in the large industrial centres of the provinces who are willing to join it. We dare say the publication, in a concise form, of information relative to the entire Afghan policy of the Government would be of great service just now. But there is hardly need of much agitation to impress upon the country the fact that that policy has signally broken down. There is no mistaking the tendency of events, which will apparently, as time goes on, reveal the egregious failure of the Beaconsfield-Lytton action in India in more vivid colours. As the Times—which, by the way, shows signs of veering round—remarks, the Prime Minister will within a few days put in a public appearance, and "the country will look to him for something more substantial than the pleasing ingenuities of his familiar dialectic."

Most of the Zulu chiefs have now submitted to Sir Garnet Wolseley, who is engaged in

carrying out his plan for portioning the country into seven districts, each one to be ruled by a separate chief with a British Resident—a plan which will hardly work well. Our suzerainty in this case is likely to be the prelude to annexation with all its responsibilities. The High Commissioner has, however, to subdue Secocoeni, and to reconcile the Boers of the Transvaal to the loss of their independence. Meanwhile, as preliminary to the desired pacification, Cetewayo is being hunted down. The pursuit is hot. The great Zulu chief and his handful of followers are being tracked from one fastness to another, but still elude their pursuers, and it is thought that he will never be taken alive. The spectacle is piteous and humiliating. Here is a potentate, albeit uncivilised, who has nevertheless ever cultivated amicable relations with the British authorities, who was forced into war with us against his will, who scrupulously abstained from invading our territory, and to whom we refused all reasonable terms, being hunted like a wild beast in the bush and among the mountains of Zululand. Reasons of state is the only excuse for this cruel act—a plea which is utterly unworthy of a nation calling itself Christian.

The French Government have at length got rid of the Blanqui difficulty. The third election for Bordeaux on Sunday last resulted in the return of the Republican candidate—another who had previously gone to the poll having withdrawn—by a small majority over the life-long revolutionist. The number of votes polled was only one-fourth of the aggregate constituency, and as many as 30,000 electors abstained from going to the ballot. This is an ominous fact, which indicates a very lukewarm attachment to the Republic—whether the abstentionists were Conservatives, who would not have been sorry for M. Blanqui to be returned, or Moderate Republicans, in whose eyes the principles of M. Achard, the new member, were too advanced.

At this dull season Vienna is the manufactory of canards. From that city we have reports not only of the possible abdication of the Czar, but of his death; the hasty summoning of his son and heir to Livadia; of the probable appointment of Prince Dondukov, the Pan Slavist, as Minister of Foreign Affairs, and of the serious breach between Russia and Germany. All but the last of these rumours are entirely unfounded. It is a fact that Prince Gortschakoff has been lately throwing out hints as to the importance of France having adequate influence in the councils of Europe, but the French Government look coldly on such advances. Russian alliances have ever been fatal to the interests of France. The Press of St. Petersburg is again assailing Germany, but this is explained by the approaching visit of Prince Bismarck to Count Andrássy at Vienna, which appears to have aroused the jealousy of the Russian Chancellor. That veteran statesman seems to be also disgusted by the peaceful and successful occupation of the Novi-Bazar district by Austrian troops with the ready co-operation of the Porte, and the full assent of Germany.

Although the weather has been somewhat chequered during the past week, and some ill-fated districts have been visited by heavy floods, we have had some days of brilliant sunshine, under the influence of which a large proportion of the wheat and barley crop in the southern counties has been cut and carried. The samples of new wheat are said to be for the most part inferior, and, according to the *Mark Lane Express*, "all the spring corn crops are to a great extent failures." In consequence of these unfavourable reports, coupled with the short arrivals of grain from the United States, there has been a general rise in the price of wheat.

Reliable information as to the agricultural condition of Ireland is not yet forthcoming, but Mr. Mitchell Henry, who is himself a landlord, and has liberally reduced his rents, warns the Government that matters are very serious

indeed, and urges that, if famine is to be averted by timely measures, commissioners should be at once appointed to examine into the condition of the peasantry. That hon. member has done his country good service by openly denouncing Mr. Parnell's scheme for an Irish Convention of 300 delegates as likely to lead to bloodshed or revolution. This proposal was laid before the Home Rule League the other day, but as the attendance was scanty, and only three M.P.'s could be induced to give it countenance, it will probably fall still-born. In fact Mr. Parnell's ambition to become an O'Connell to the Irish people meets with great obstacles. Of far more significance are such demonstrations as that held at Mallow on Sunday last on the land question, and in favour of tenant right, fixity of tenure, and Government intervention. This open-air meeting, at which some 10,000 persons from all the neighbouring towns and districts were present, was not foolish enough to accept the dictum of Mr. O'Connor Power, M.P., that landlordism should be abolished, and the tenants made absolute owners of the soil, but adopted the following moderate resolution amongst others:—"That, owing to three bad seasons coming in succession, the great decline in the prices of agricultural produce and live stock, the losses sustained by the disease in sheep, and the general depression in trade, it is absolutely impossible for farmers to pay present rents, and we call upon our landlords to make such abatements as the circumstances of the times demand." There is no doubt that a strong agitation in favour of fixity of tenure is arising in Ireland.

Whatever may be the real truth as to agricultural prospects in Ireland, there are only too many signs of the serious position of the English tenant-farmers, which it is feared the mere abatement of rents will do little to mitigate. The Royal Commission for inquiring into agricultural depression has put forth a comprehensive plan, which will, no doubt, six or twelve months hence, yield valuable information. But without waiting for this slow result, a special commissioner of the *Daily News* is afield, and his letters throw valuable light upon the state of our farming interest and the causes of its depression. In his last communication from Doncaster he says he has been informed by experienced agriculturists that more than half the farms on the poor clays of the lias formation, and on the red clay or "brick-earth" of Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire, are to let. He goes on to say:—

Some of the tenants have retired with loss rather than sink their last shilling in a vain hope that times may better; some have had no option but to do their best for creditors by getting out of their farms at any sacrifice; some have left for smaller holdings or farms on more grateful soil; others have gone away from this neighbourhood altogether to non-agricultural business or employment; and some are acting as farm managers to the landlords they lately lived under. But many occupiers on the marlstone soils, which are of better quality, on clay loams, and strong land, where the farms have a considerable proportion of fair pasture, in conjunction with the arable, are, under pressure of the present crisis, giving notices to quit. Some of these tenants live under thoroughly liberal landlords at moderate rents, and in parts of South Notts where no material injury is inflicted by game. In very many cases farmers have compromised the matter by offering to continue at a large reduction in rent. One farm I know of has had the rent adjusted, not by a valuer walking over it and fixing the figure which the tenant must pay, but by the owner gladly accepting the occupier's offer to remain at 20s. an acre, the rent until now having been 35s.

The commissioner has also visited a district of very small farms—less than fifty and often ten acres in extent—known as the Isle of Oxholme in Lincolnshire. Here the cereal harvest is likely to yield a fair average, but half the potato crop, which is more important to these industrious freeholders than wheat, has rotted away. The general conclusion of the writer is that a large proportion of the little properties are mortgaged, many very heavily; that the disaster which has fallen upon the potato crop, added to the bad harvest following upon three years of deficient yield, is subjecting large numbers of the freeholders to a strain for money which it will be difficult for them to get over; and "that husbandry on a small scale can hold on through a time of depression as hopefully, as farming on the large scale, but that it does not escape that weeding-out of men of straw which is now trying the whole of the agricultural owners and occupiers of Great Britain."

Correspondence.

THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS POLICY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Nothing is more painfully obvious than the manner in which public morality has become lowered under the present Government. English statesmanship is no longer what it was. The precedents and practices of corrupt times have been, as it were, disinterred and introduced into the public life of the present time. When the Tories came into office five years ago they came with the professions of Liberalism upon their lips. In the alternations of the fortunes of parties from the repeal of the Corn Laws they had occasionally been in office without being in power; and owing to the fact that for so many years they had been in an apparently hopeless minority, they had come gradually to use the language and the professions of the popular party. For years Tories had affected to be zealous for all kinds of reform, and represented that the only difference between their party and the Liberals was a difference as to time and opportunity, and not of essential principle. They were astonished at the result of the election of 1874; such a thing as an immense Tory majority had never occurred to them; and it was some time before the party realised that they were in power as well as in office.

From the time the Tories realised this there was a rapid decadence. Their sins before this were sins of omission; afterwards they added sins of commission. For the first two years of the existence of the Government, Toryism aimed chiefly at defensive operations; during the last three years it has been aggressive. It has been the determined and persistent foe of freedom in the South-east of Europe. In the carrying out of this inglorious, if not infamous, rôle it did not shrink from urging upon the Ottoman Porte that the struggle for liberty in the provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina should be put down with fire and sword. It made a merit—called it "peace with honour"—that it circumscribed the area of freedom, and kept whole countries under the filthy and bloodthirsty despotism of the Sultan. To distract attention from the difference between its promise and its performance in Europe it picked a quarrel with Afghanistan, on a flimsy if not a fraudulent "pretext." Every authority deserving to be heard declared that this war was unjust, unnecessary, immoral, and dangerous; and it was scarcely over before its most influential and strenuous advocate (Sir Henry Rawlinson) poured contempt upon its results, and told the people of England that, should Russia advance to Merv, India would not be safe unless we undertook the protectorate of Persia!

In harmony with the antecedents of the Government, their supporters in the Press and country dealt in extravagant eulogy—no language was too glowing to extol this policy and the results obtained. Sir Stafford Northcote declared that these results would "enable the rulers of India to devote themselves exclusively to the material interests of that country." What a commentary upon that language is the news which little more than ten days ago convulsed the country! How hard Nemesis has followed upon the heels of successful crime! And we are by no means sure that the extent of the punishment will simply be the breaking down of a policy at once weak and wicked. No man can as yet foresee the results of these Cabul assassinations. It may be that we may be permitted to send an army to "exact satisfaction" for the insulting outrage, inaugurate a more reasonable and less sensational frontier policy with our Afghan neighbours, and settle down, under better auspices than those of the present Government, to the much-needed improvement of our rule in India. On the other hand, it may not be so. We may have complications with Russia; we may be landed in hostilities with Burmah; and we may find our hands filled in that very Empire which we were told had been secured beyond all possibility of disturbance by the issue of the Afghan war.

The situation is full of danger and difficulty, but it has not been deemed necessary to hold a Cabinet Council. Are not matters in the hands of a Viceroy of "patient foresight and perseverance" (the language is Mr. Stanhope's); and are not the Jingo residuum of the capital and great towns, and the braves of the music-halls, glutted even to surfeit with promises of vengeance on the "cowardly Cabulees"? Why should Ministers leave their shooting and their country retreats? Surely we have here a fresh instance of the recklessness of the present Government, a fresh evidence of their want of sagacity and ability to grasp the true

bearings of a situation which fills every thinking man with alarm. Probably Russia has too much to do at home to become awkward; but any false step, any disaster to the British arms, any difficulty in Europe, may precipitate Theebaw on Lower Burmah, and fan into insurrection the smouldering embers of sedition within the borders of India.

This last is undoubtedly the serious part of the problem before this country. There can no longer be any doubt of the deep-seated disaffection towards British rule in our Eastern Empire. The action of the present Viceroy in reference to the vernacular Press, the proposal to disarm the armies of the native princes, and above all the crushing load of taxation and the depletion of the country by payments amounting to twenty millions annually to England, have done much to aggravate the discontent. The *Times*—which, however, seems to be preparing to "rat"—as the semi-official organ of Government—puts the best face on the *émouvantes* in various parts of India; but there can be no question the situation is very serious. To this complexion, then, have we been brought by the vicious and reckless policy of the present Government—smouldering sedition within India, difficulties and entanglements without. Cabul will have to be occupied, and supposing that operation is accomplished without any check to British arms—what then? Under the best of circumstances it will be impossible to carry out those measures of retrenchment which even the present Government have declared to be necessary in India. Whether we occupy Cabul, or convert Candahar into a great fortress commanding all the routes to India on that side, or whether we retire within our "scientific frontier," there will be an increase of expenditure. That means in India bad and oppressive government, and an indefinite augmentation of all the forces of discontent and sedition. Thus the very means which Tory wisdom tells us are necessary to the maintenance of our rule in India will bring it into greater danger than it has ever been from Russian menace or intrigue.

But it may be that our Government does not intend to call upon India to bear any of the expense at all, but to charge it upon England. What will the starving operatives of our great manufacturing centres, what will ruined tradesmen and farmers, what will "limited" landowners with heavy charges and a diminishing rent-roll, think of the prospect of an addition to the public expenditure which may amount to four, and will hardly be less than two, millions annually? The general election only can tell. Not since the days of the election of the Long Parliament has there been an election fraught with such portentous issues as that which will ere long be upon us. We are at the point where the roads divide. If the country declares that it believes the charlatanism of the present Ministry to be true statesmanship, it will thereby choose the road which leads to national decadence, and probably to disasters which will make the whole world stand aghast. If, on the contrary, the country repudiates the Ministry and all its works, it will thereby declare that it still believes there is a God who judgeth in the earth, and that justice and righteousness are the only sure foundations of national policy. The peaceful unfolding and development of English freedom, the moral and material well-being both of the English people and the people of India, are staked on the next election. Never since the conquest of India were the interests of the two peoples so interlaced, and according as we in these islands adhere to or repudiate Jingoism shall we lay up for our Indian fellow-subjects and our own power among them an immediate future of trouble and disaster, or of amelioration and progress.

In view of the events in Afghanistan, coupled with the known character of the Ministry, there is more call than ever for Liberals to sink all differences and unite with zeal and enthusiasm against the common enemy. I should say that all Liberals ought to accept any candidate who to the support of the Burials Bill, the extension of the county franchise, and the amendment of the land laws, adds hatred of Lord Beaconsfield's policy in Europe and in India. This short creed ought to find acceptance with the country, if the country has not been so demoralised by the present Government as to call evil good and good evil. I confess I think our chief danger lies in the lowered tone of public morality which this Government by word and deed has done so much to bring about. Humanity, justice, morality, have all been scoffed at in our international dealings where they have conflicted with "British interests." What verdict will the Christianity of Eng-

land pass upon such a Government? This is an important question for all the Churches. Just laws at home, just policies abroad, are as much the offspring of Christian principle as the proper conduct of private life. Neither the one nor the other can be expected from a Ministry which, though it is the executive organ of a party which affects to be more zealous than any other party for the religion of Christ, has pursued policies so unblushingly wicked that they ought to be called by the name of Belial.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN ADDISON.

Brierley Hill, September 13.

THE "CONDITIONAL IMMORTALITY ASSOCIATION."

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—May I be allowed to explain, in reply to many inquiries, that I have borne no part with Dr. Leask and Mr. C. Brooks in the formation of the above-named association? Devout and able men, such as those who have formed it, cannot meet together for three days without telling to each other many valuable truths, and thereby doing good; and such, I doubt not, has been the result of this recent well-conducted meeting at Maberly Chapel. But it is within my knowledge that a large number of the oldest and ablest adherents of the doctrine of conditional immortality, in England and on the Continent, object to the formation of a Society for its diffusion. They think that it lowers and isolates a truth which is best taught otherwise. They would as soon join a Justification by Faith Association, as a "Conditional-Immortality Association." The next thing will be an Unconditional Immortality Association, with paid Secretary and Subscription-list.

The doctrine of the Future State is not yet in a condition to be crystallised into a complete formula. Any popular organisation now set on foot is liable, as appears from the recent meeting, to fall under the manipulation of a section who will attempt inseparably to connect the doctrine of conditional immortality with what must be called materialistic views, to the exclusion or disparagement of scholars who are firmly opposed to materialism. This danger is reducible to a minimum so long as all opinion is free and discussion really open; but once commit the main cause to the management of persons who do not believe that those who "kill the body are not able to kill the soul," and that to be "absent from the body" is, for a Christian to be "present with the Lord," and pernicious results, in my judgment, must ensue. By all means let the advocates of the doctrine of conditional immortality meet in temporary conferences with each other and with their opponents; but let us be spared the consequences of being delivered over just yet to the exclusive guidance of the "Secretary and Committee" of an organised propaganda.

I venture with all deference to affirm that very few of the writers whose names are best known in connection with this question in England, Europe, or America, would consider themselves or their doctrine to have been justly represented to the public by the gentlemen who met at Maberly Chapel, who nevertheless designate themselves "The Conditional Immortality Association." And this assumption of a general title I think unfair. It should be "the Conditional Immortality Association, Limited."

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

EDWARD WHITE.

Sept. 15, 1879.

DUTIES OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR,—I have but just returned from an excursion of a few weeks into the country, and hence have only to-day read my copy of your issue of May 21. The account of the proceedings of the Congregational Union contained in it and your article upon them have given me very great pleasure. There seems to be a step in advance made—a very cautious one—in dealing with one of the two great evils that afflict society, Christian and heathen, all over the world. Dr. Allon's and Mr. Mackennal's papers seem to have been very interesting and important, and I trust may produce a good effect upon many who are accustomed to respect them and their utterances. But it has for some time been my belief that the lack of active spiritual life among so many members of Christian families has been largely due to the hesitation among Christians to attack evil openly and in the front, not covertly and indirectly. Their spirituality dies from want of something to do. Active combat with sin calls forth, sustains, and mightily increases spiritual energy.

I fear that the entire refusal of the Congregational Union to deal with the second of the two great scourges of mankind I have alluded to, and the tardiness of its recognition of the imperative duty of assailing the other, only reflect the unwillingness of a "large and influential" number of our ministers and churchgoers to enter upon a contest with wickedness and unutterable wrong that might probably be a painful one, though to a disciple of Christ that surely is no reason for shrinking back. I shall not easily forget my feelings when I heard a Congregational minister only a day or two before I left England, in opposing a certain resolution, give vent to silly scoffs, not only at his then opponents, but at those who are fighting the questions of intemperance and the opium trading of our Indian Government. Even if these latter were wrong, their high character and declared motives might silence any scoffer. And I almost feel alarmed when I know that there are persons in England, who are not so much perhaps anti-Christian as non-Christian, who spend time, labour, and money upon the very subjects that are jeered about by Christian men.

Christian churches, like individual men, tend to make grooves to move in. Their work becomes routine. Anyone who presses new action, fresh lines of work upon them, is regarded as an intruder, a troubler of their peace. But I venture to say that if men, with eyes to see and ears to hear what is going on around them, find that things difficult or disagreeable are resolutely and persistently put aside, however loud the cry for treatment, just because they are difficult and disagreeable, they will drop off from, or refuse to join, organisations that thus fail in their duty.

The strength of the churches of Christ is the strength of the Christians who compose them. Let each member of those churches be taught to believe, and encouraged to act as if he believed, that he himself and not another—he himself and not a paid substitute—has to fight against sin in every form, and most bravely, most uncompromisingly, nay, most desperately, when sin is most alluring or most hideous. We should not then hear so much about the want of spiritual energy in our churches.

By whom is such teaching and encouragement to be given? Are any enemies, and which, and why, to be excluded from such teaching and encouragement? Are those that are most certain to attack, and most dangerous when they do attack?

I remain, yours sincerely,

CHARLES JAMES TARRING.

16, Fukurmachi, Suruga dai, Tokio, Japan,
August 11, 1879.

CONGREGATIONAL TEMPERANCE SUNDAY.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit us to call attention to the recommendation of the Congregational Union as to the second Sunday in November being set apart as Temperance Sunday, particulars of which will be found in your advertising columns of to-day?

Yours very truly,

GEO. M. MURPHY } Hon. Secs.
G. B. SOWERBY }

Congregational Total Abstinence Association.

AN URGENT QUESTION.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—Why are the subscriptions to Christian works and useful institutions so small? So an earnest Christian asked me. His reply was very clear. "We live," he says, "too luxuriously. Our eating, our drinking, our dressing costs us too much by half. How few of us are content to follow the example of the simple life of Christ! Every class above the rank of labourer is spending double what is needed. Might we not live just as well and have double the amount to give away?" I feel that he is right, and I am reminded by his words of a striking call addressed to us by a body who, at any rate, add the seal of practice to their words. I mean the vegetarians. In annual meeting assembled they passed a unanimous resolution, "urging on all upholders of morality, on all friends of missions, home and foreign, and on the earnestly religious everywhere, the necessity of a return to a pure, simple, and natural diet as an invaluable auxiliary to the promotion of all abiding moral and spiritual advancement." I feel bound for myself to listen to this call, and, indeed, it seems timely that the sacred words should be brought to remembrance:—"I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

I am, faithfully,

W. W. PARKIN.

Doncaster, Sept. 11, 1879.

THE OUTBREAK AT CABUL.

A mysterious silence prevails as to the condition of the city of Cabul since the 4th inst.—the day following the massacre of Sir Louis Cavagnari and the rest of the British Embassy. There are numerous rumours as to the part which the Ameer played in the recent deplorable catastrophe, and according to a Simla telegram in the *Daily Telegraph* it is believed in well-informed quarters that he is implicated in the action of the disaffected regiments, and it is stated orders have been given at Cabul for the stoppage of all direct communication with the British, that a large hostile force of Mohmunda occupies Dakka, and that the approach to Cabul is covered by a large Afghan army. Yakoob Khan will soon have to declare himself definitely one way or the other, for the Government of India have taken measures to inform him, through General Roberts, that the time has come when he must give practical proofs that his assurances of loyal goodwill are to be trusted. The Ameer will be called upon by General Roberts to co-operate with the British advance, and to recognise the justice and expediency of the measures adopted for punishing the outrage committed upon the British Envoy.

The correspondent of the *Standard* at Ali Kheyl, within twenty-five miles of the Shutargardan Pass, says, in a telegram dated Sunday night :—

An eye-witness of the attack upon the Residency states that the assault commenced at one o'clock in the day, but that at eight in the morning Major Cavagnari received information which led him to believe that a rising was intended. The defence was heroic—four thousand men attacking seventy. The mutineers brought up artillery and used it against the Residency. Most of the defenders were shot down; the Envoy himself was stabbed. The bodies have all been mutilated. The Afghan loss exceeded three hundred. The Ameer had other troops who remained faithful to him, but he made no effort whatever to interfere. A Bengal Mollah bitterly reproached him for permitting the sacred person of an Ambassador to be injured, and begged him to endeavour to save him, as his death would be for ever a dishonour to his name. The Ameer, however, intimidated by the fanatical native Mollahs, did nothing whatever. General Roberts has arrived here, and has been received with the greatest enthusiasm by the troops. The following are the troops told off for the advance :—F A Battery Royal Horse Artillery; G 3 Battery Royal Artillery; No. 2 Mountain Battery; the 67th, 72nd, and 92nd Queen's; the 5th Goorkhas, the 23rd Punjab Pioneers, the 5th Punjab Infantry, a squadron of the 9th Lancers, the 12th and 14th Bengal Lancers, and the 7th Company of Sappers. Great difficulty is experienced in collecting the necessary transport, and it is feared that the advance will be delayed. The Kurum and Ali Kheyl tribes all profess a desire to assist us, and no troubles have taken place between Thull and Kohat. Troops are on their way up to take the place of those marching on Cabul. A whole brigade is now at the summit of the Shutargardan Pass. No direct news has been received from the Ameer since his communication on the day after the massacre.

Other telegrams in the main confirm the information given above by the *Standard's* correspondent. Sir Gholam Hussein Khan has arrived at our post on the Shutargardan Pass. The intelligence has been received with much pleasure, as great fears were entertained for his safety. He did not go on to Cabul, but turned off on the road from Ghuznee on hearing of the massacre. This information was flashed by heliograph signalling from the crest of the pass to Ali Kheyl. With regard to the advance of our troops on Cabul all the energies of the Indian Government seem to be concentrated on the strengthening of General Roberts's column, whose most advanced position is now at the top of the Shutargardan Pass. Already he has demanded an additional brigade in order to secure his communications. This, observes the military correspondent of the *Times*, will make one of the junior major-generals in our service the fortunate commander of a division of four regiments of cavalry, four battalions of the Line, and eight of native infantry. Until the Khyber column is thoroughly organised, Sir F. Roberts will be entirely dependent on the Kurum for the reinforcements he has asked for, and also for supplies. His column, however, needs strengthening, especially if it be true, as the *Daily News* correspondent telegraphs, that the Mohmunda are threatening an attack on his camp at Ali Kheyl. The same correspondent says that the mutineers are advancing on Jellalabad, but there is no confirmation of the report, which has not probably any more foundation than the gossip of the bazaars. A more reliable Reuter's telegram from Simla, dated Saturday, says :—A body of the mutinous Afghan troops have gone to Zurmat, a district to the east of Ghuznee, hoping to incite the tribes in that locality to attack the flank of the British troops in the Shutargardan Pass. Although the mutineers have declared their desire to fight the British forces, they are wholly unorganised and without leaders. The Ameer has addressed a letter to the Indian Government, under date of the 4th inst., written after the outbreak, in which he gives assurances of his true friendship and of the sincerity of his intentions towards the Government. General Roberts has been instructed to call upon the Ameer to prove the earnestness of his protestations, in the present circumstances, by sending a deputation of confidential representatives, invested with full powers, to communicate with General Roberts.

As regards the time when the British advance can be made, there is no doubt that owing to the almost insurmountable transport difficulties, considerable delay must take place, and it is very improbable that our troops can reach Cabul before

the beginning of next month, and possibly later. The military critic of the *Times* is very severe on the mismanagement which led to so ruinous a loss of beasts of burden during the last campaign. He says :—

News of the massacre in the Bala Hissar reached Simla on Sept. 5, and immediate orders were despatched to Brigadier-General Dunham Massey to occupy the Shutargardan Pass; it would appear, however, from the Viceroy's telegram that this was not carried out until the 11th. Our advanced post during the summer had been at Ali Kheyl, a village distant but twenty-five miles from the crest of the pass, and yet a week elapsed before a weak brigade could traverse this short distance. This does not bode well for the celerity of future movements, and exemplifies, in the strongest manner, the emaciated condition of our transport arrangements. It is difficult to understand why carriage has not been maintained for the troops in the Khyber and Kurum Valleys. Yet this dilatoriness on the part of General Massey's brigade would point to the fact that regiments on active service (as they undoubtedly were) on the very frontier of a country with which we had but just concluded peace, and surrounded by tribes against whom at any moment they might be called upon to act, were left absolutely without the means of moving even in light marching order. It would seem as if the mortality in transport cattle has affected the regiments of the Frontier Force, and that the Punjab is so denuded of mules that they have been unable to make good their casualties. We know that shortly after the commencement of the late campaign, Sir Samuel Browne's column became absolutely stationary for lack of baggage animals; indeed, at the very outset of the war, all columns complained of the inefficiency of transport arrangements. Officers possessing no practical acquaintance with the subject were brought up from distant Presidencies, many from British regiments, and were placed in command of a certain number of men, of whose language they understood not a word, and in charge of animals of which they knew less. Men who had rarely seen a camel and never spoken to a camel driver were expected to become proficient commanders of baggage corps in the twinkling of an eye. Under these circumstances, it was not to be wondered at that the animals died, the transport trains broke down, or that the British officers entrusted with the charge of their organisation resigned from sheer despair. Our correspondents at Ali Kheyl and Kohat speak of the great difficulties regarding transport for the Kurum column, mentioning that the extraordinary mortality among the camels in the valley defeats all calculation.

Though the frontier tribes appear to be unsettled and excited, no acts of hostility have been committed by them. The Ghilzais, a most powerful and warlike section of the Afghan nation, have not pronounced against us, although the fanatical native Mollahs have amongst them as well as among other tribes been preaching a jihad or Holy War. One of their chiefs, Badshah Khan, who is described as all-powerful between the Shutargardan and Cabul, is believed to be well disposed towards us. The hill tribes to the south of Sir Frederick Roberts's line of advance have been incited to attack our troops, but they have not declared their hostility, and the British commander hopes to make terms with them. Those immediately around Ali Kheyl have already been assisting the forward movements of General Massey. In southern Afghanistan the despatches from Candahar tend to show that the antipathy to the Cabul domination has produced a friendly feeling towards the British army. In this quarter, however, no advance on the capital is contemplated. The health of the troops is said to be good, and the occupation of Candahar by a strong garrison will tend to keep the hill tribes of the region between the Bolan and the Kurum in awe.

THE ROUTE FROM THE KURUM VALLEY TO CABUL.

(From the *Pall Mall Gazette*.)

It is generally and probably correctly assumed that the troops which will first advance upon Cabul will be those at present stationed in the Kurum Valley. From the *Daily News* we learn that the advanced guard of this force is at Ali Kheyl, "the only position occupied by us beyond the Peiwar and between that height and the Shutargardan." The following account therefore (compiled by General Vaughan from the observations of officers who had traversed it), of the route from our forepost in the Kurum Valley to Cabul may be read with interest at the present moment. From Ali Kheyl the road, says General Vaughan, runs up the bed of the Hazardaraht stream. At about four miles from Ali Kheyl the valley narrows to half a mile, with precipitous commanding peaks on either side clad with pine forest; while eight miles from Ali Kheyl the valley is barely 200 yards wide. From this point the road is entirely commanded by spurs running down from lofty mountains to the bed of the stream. Guns would have great difficulty in traversing this portion of the route, owing to the rocks and stones which have been rolled down and have settled in the bed of the torrent. The first day's march from Ali Kheyl would probably finish at Hazardaraht, where no provisions or forage would be obtainable, and where the encamping ground is bad and would necessitate a force of any size being widely scattered. The second day's march, from Hazardaraht to Hazra, is eight miles in length. For the first two miles the road is very similar to that from Ali Kheyl to Hazardaraht. It then becomes easier until the Surkai Kotul is reached, when it rises rapidly, and the soil being clay the track becomes very slippery after rain. The ascent, although steep, is short; but it is commanded by hills on both sides. The third day's march, from Hazra to Dobundi, is again eight miles in length.

For two miles the road runs through a narrow gorge, commanded by peaks on all sides, when the summit of the Shutargardan Pass is reached. Thence the descent towards the Logur Valley is very steep, with sharp zigzags, the road being impracticable for wheeled carriages without a vast expenditure of money and labour. Rugged mountains overhang both sides of the pass, with huge masses of naked limestone cropping out in every direction, offering cover to an enemy from which it would be difficult to dislodge him without great effort; while it would be also difficult to withdraw covering parties after the descent of the pass had been accomplished. From the top of the Shutargardan Pass to the village of Akhunkila the road runs along the bed of a small stream never more than a hundred feet wide, with huge cliffs towering up several hundred feet on each side; and after passing Akhunkila the road narrows to thirty feet, and continues very steep until it is joined by a stream coming from the north. The fourth day's march, from Dobundi to Kooshee, is nine miles, the road passing over a small steep hill, called the Shinkai Kotul, while even when Kooshee is reached Cabul is still five marches distant.

THE CONTINENTAL PRESS ON THE AFGHAN CRISIS.

The terrible events in Afghanistan have naturally enough given occasion for articles in all the Continental journals. The *St. Petersburg Golos* deprecates the punishment of Cabul by fire and sword, and adheres to its opinion that the annexation of Afghanistan is inevitable, notwithstanding that public opinion in England may be hostile to such a step. The *St. Petersburg Gazette*, which at first submitted a proposal of "dividing Afghanistan" between Russia and England, now advocates open hostility to England, and deliberately proposes to have a Russian army despatched in support of the mutineers of Cabul, and urges upon the Russian Government the duty of seizing the present opportunity of annihilating, as it is fancied, the English power in Central Asia. "England," says the *Gazette*, "has always been the deadly enemy of Russia, whose policy in Asia can only consist of reprisals against England. It is necessary to expel the British from Central Asia, and this can now be done by sending 20,000 Russian troops to defend Afghanistan. A timely interference on the part of Russia must decide the question of the existence of England's might in that region; and now is the favourable moment to free Russia's eastern frontier for ever from danger on the part of England."

The *Nord*, the Muscovite organ published at Brussels, deprecates the idea that the above article was in any way officially inspired. Its opinion, says the *Nord*, was undoubtedly individual. The latter paper, which is, perhaps, better qualified as semi-official, does not believe that Russia wishes to abandon the principle of non-intervention in Afghan affairs so long as she is at peace with Great Britain. It will not go, however, so far as to say that Russia could watch in a totally disinterested manner the destiny of a State which is in such close proximity to her Asiatic possessions. The question for the Czar's Government to determine was whether the situation created by this treaty was or was not compatible with the maintenance of the Anglo-Russian agreement, which stipulated the independence of Afghanistan. The Russian journal is furthermore convinced that, although there are reasons for renewing *pourparlers* between the two Powers upon the new bases dependent on the altered situation, it would nevertheless be useless to enter into negotiations at a moment of confusion caused by the state of affairs in Afghanistan. "The English Government probably does not know itself what it will decide upon doing after having avenged the massacre of its Embassy. It has not yet made up its mind whether the wise counsels advocating a return to within the limits of its frontiers shall be followed, or else the adventurous advice of those who urge it to annex Cabul." So says the *Nord*.

One of the most influential of the French papers, the *Debats*, holds that England has reached the last of the three stages of relations with a barbarous people described by Prince Gortschakoff in his despatch of 1864. The first stage consists in more or less pacific negotiations, the second in the chastisement but temporary evacuation of the country, the third in annexation. "If you confine yourself to punishing the marauders, and withdraw," said the Prince, "the lesson is soon effaced; the withdrawal is imputed to weakness; Asiatic peoples in particular respect only visible and tangible force; the moral force of reason and the interests of civilisation have as yet no hold on them; the task has always, therefore, to be recommenced." Never were more sanguinary reprisals than those of England in Afghanistan in 1842, but the lesson has been forgotten. As for the doctrine of Professor Martens, of St. Petersburg, that Russia and England should divide Central Asia between them, the former occupying Merv, the *Debats* is disinclined to believe that the best means of insuring permanent peace is to bring face to face two Powers of such different character, manners, and political framework. The warlike and conquering Russia, constantly seeking to clear the way to richer and warmer regions than her own, recognises no obstacle between her and one of the finest countries in the world when she sees that that country, governed by an insignificant minority of Europeans belonging to a people whose military spirit and institutions are daily getting weaker, contains elements of revolt. When the ardent Slav imagination is

inflamed by such irresistible temptations, "what," asks the *Debats*, "is to prevent a violent collision between England and Russia? The regular march of Great Powers gradually crushing the small ones is doubtless as inevitable as Prince Gortschakoff says, but there is a last stage in this progressive invasion which he forgot to describe. By dint of advancing over the bodies of the weak the Great Powers end by meeting, and, being carried away by the acquired speed, it is impossible for them to pull up. So, at least, things have happened in all times and in all parts of the world. It will be hard to persuade us that professors of international law have changed all that."

In another article the *Debats* says that Lord Beaconsfield has been too venturesome, jerky, and isolated in his diplomacy. The English power, produced by several centuries of skilful, prudent, and continuous policy, is too delicate for such experiments. It can only be maintained by the means which raised it, not sudden inspiration, strokes of genius, or bold attempts approaching temerity, but constancy in resolutions, moderation in desires, thorough union with allies, the military spirit, and the spirit of tradition.

The *Deutsche Zeitung* asserts in plain terms that the insurrection at Cabul was paid for with Russian coin. The *Tagblatt* of Vienna writes as follows:—"The events at Cabul recall the danger that threatens England's possessions in East India, and give us a clear idea of the importance to be attached to the rivalry between England and Russia in Asia. In the Eastern crisis every effort was made to avoid war between two large Powers, and England derived cheap success thereby. Lord Beaconsfield will discover in course of time that what is easily won is quite as easily lost." The *Presse* devotes three columns to the subject, of which the following are the most remarkable passages:—"The whole diplomatico-artistic system of the scientific frontier falls to the ground like a house of cards. England must go to the risk and expense of an Afghan campaign to avenge the deed perpetrated against her representative, and to restore in as brilliant a manner as possible her prestige in India, so gravely compromised by the massacre at Cabul. That will soon be done, but what then? A mere restoration of that state of affairs established by the last treaty of peace can scarcely be thought of. Afghanistan will, in some form or other, be included within the political sphere of British India. British residents and British officers will be masters of the land whether the Ameer retains nominal supremacy or not. . . . The centre of gravity of the Eastern Question will be transferred from the Golden Horn to the Steppes of Central Asia, where, sooner or later, it must be solved."

IRISH NATIONALISTS ON THE CABUL MASSACRE.

Most of the Irish "National" papers rejoice over "the terrible visitation," as the *Nation* says, "that has again befallen the plunderers of India." "To the astonished gaze of England," says the writer in the *Nation*, "there is suddenly displayed, not a cowed and conquered province, virtually added to her dominions, but a fierce and fanatical nation—strung to the wildest pitch of excitement—in arms against foreign oppression, and resolved to sweep the English levies from their soil."—The *Irishman*, which has a leading article headed "Crimson Cabul," says:—"As the English did in Zululand, so were they done by in Cabul. They were forced by the burning mass of the conflagration to rush from the flames upon the bayonets of the people whom they had foully robbed of their freedom."—The *Irish Patriot* "asks if there is an honest man that does not feel with satisfaction that British greed for territory has received a great, if somewhat tardy, check? Those men who fell, murdered by the furious Afghans, were the instruments of a wicked lust for power, and as such they met the doom which not they, but their overreaching, tyrannical, and insatiable employers deserve."—The *Flag of Ireland* says:—"The massacre of Cabul will be regretted in England, but the rest of the world will hold the Cabul massacre blameless, if not fully justified. The invasion was wanton, wicked, and atrocious. It was unprovoked, save by the demon of greed, that prompts Englishmen to covet their neighbours' goods, and to slay men for the sake of their possessions. The Ameer is a cunning Asiatic, and he may have played well his part. If he has tricked the enemy, taking his gold with one hand, and with the other pointing to the Residency, he deserves well of his country. Were he a Pole, and had done such deeds to the damage of Russia, the English would proclaim him a patriot. Therefore, what is righteous at Warsaw is not unrighteous at Cabul."—The *Weekly News* says:—"John Bull loves to meddle in the affairs of other people; but, better than meddling or annexing, he loves to keep his money, and to keep at a civil distance from nations more powerful than his own. He will rue the day he ever set foot in Afghanistan; for he must either run out of it in confusion and incur the contempt of Asia, or, taking possession of it, bring himself under the terrible swing of the Russian."

Postcards have been introduced into India, but as yet with only partial success, since the natives will insist on regarding them as compulsory writing-paper, on which they indite their correspondence, and then despatch them inside envelopes. A native official has sent in by post in a big cover his annual report, written on a series of postcards.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

KILMARNOCK.—Mr. J. Dick Peddie, of Edinburgh, one of three Liberal candidates for the representation of Kilmarnock Burghs, addressed the electors on Thursday night in the Corn Exchange. He declared himself in favour of the Permissive Bill and of the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church. He approved of a committee of inquiry into the demands of the Home Rulers, although opposed to what he understood to be meant by Home Rule in Ireland.

IPSWICH.—Mr. Jesse Collings, mayor of Birmingham, on Thursday made his introduction to the constituency as the second Liberal candidate for the borough. He charged upon the policy of the Government the extreme anxiety now prevalent amongst all classes. Referring to the news from Cabul, he said our scientific frontier was getting too scientific. The Government must either retire from it or hold the whole of Afghanistan. As to the war in South Africa, he marvelled that a country like England, with all its advantages, could not let the poor natives of Africa alone. The massacre of Glencoe was mercy compared with the horrors of burning kraals in Zululand. The best thing we could do was to make the easiest terms we could with that much-injured heroic king, Cetewayo. Lord Beaconsfield and his Government had for six years been the evil genius of England. Mr. Collings also said he was an advocate of disestablishment. Mr. West, Q.C., the other Liberal candidate, also spoke.

GLASGOW.—Sir James Bain has been chosen by the Glasgow Conservative Association to contest the representation of that city with Dr. James A. Campbell, in the Conservative interest, at the general election.

ELGIN.—The nomination for Moray and Nairn took place on Friday at Torres. Sir G. M'Pherson Grant (Liberal) and Mr. Ashley Brodie (Conservative) were nominated. The polling takes place on this day.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—Colonel Roden, who represented Stoke-on-Trent prior to 1868, has written to a local paper announcing that he will contest the borough at the next election as a Liberal, but independent of any caucus. He declined a challenge to come and address meetings in the district, saying that no election is probable for some time, but up to the present he fully endorses the foreign policy of the present Government.

THE ZULUS AND THEIR NEIGHBOURS.

Nothing Wood has done (for he was the *doer*), or Wolsley has yet attempted, supersedes the interest of facts honestly stated and competently avouched by men who observed them on the spot. Perhaps the most hopeful intelligence lately received increases the value as well as the interest of autoptic and unbiased testimony. We therefore resume, as the September number of the *Wesleyan Methodist Magazine* enables us, the Rev. George Blencowe's narrative of facts. The reader will bear in mind that the writer was stationed from 1858 till 1872 at one or other of three places (Durban, Pietermaritzburg, or Ladysmith), besides some later years in South Africa before coming to England, being now "supernumerary" at New Barnet.

His "second paper" begins with 1853, when the Boers who had left Natal for the Transvaal asked permission from Panda to occupy for two months, at the end of winter, grazing ground for their chilled cattle betwixt the two rivers Buffalo and Blood. As it had not been occupied by Zulus and there were no kraals within many miles, the request was granted. But the applicant had no sooner got a lease than he took farms to himself, gave others to his friends, and, in short, prepared for a permanent occupation. Panda seems to have winked at the unfaithful encroachment, not willing to dispute with the Boers while he might be glad of a near refuge from Cetewayo.

Pretorius, however, President of the Transvaal, instructed the intending settlers to return, as having directly violated a stipulation in his convention with the British Government, which made non-interference north of the Vaal binding on them both. Instead of obeying him they started a Republic of their own, which remained distinct till his death, when it was incorporated with the central Government under the title of the South African Republic. The son not merely sanctioned what the father had condemned, but became a prime mover in unauthorised acquisitions of territory, and in those assumptions of power to regulate the internal affairs of Zululand which that father had renounced. For these reasons Panda asked the intervention of the British, which, being granted, has led to our complicity in Zulu affairs.

Till 1866 the Boers left the Zulus at rest. The former now demanded a decided grant of that which had been requested for two months in 1861. By signed document Panda made over the land specified; and, says Mr. Blencowe, "the member of the commission who drew it assured me that Panda understood the purport of the deed, and made a *bona fide* cession." When, however, a party went to place the "beacons," and called out the neighbouring Zulus to see their position, Panda, Cetewayo, and the lesser chiefs declared no land had been granted; Cetewayo sending an "impi" to throw down the beacons, pull down the partially-built houses, and drive off the stock over the border. Mr. Blencowe thinks it not unlikely that, from differences of language, the Zulus regarded as

but a present use what the Boers regarded as a perpetual transfer, and states it as a "certain fact" that Panda had neither power nor intention to make such a grant. "This document," adds Mr. B., "was, I suppose, one of three Sir T. Shepstone saw in the office of the Landrost at Utrecht in Jan. 1878."

To the representation that the land was bought and paid for by cattle sent to supply the wants of Panda, the Zulus replied by sending in return eight hundred head of cattle, with compound interest in natural increase; which done, Panda, Cetewayo, and the minor chiefs despatched a deputation to the Governor of Natal asking him to declare the true line of separation between the Zulus and the Boers, and promising to accept whatever boundary he assigned; to which was added this application—that he would take and occupy with Englishmen a broad piece of country betwixt the two boundaries. "Then," they said, "we can sleep. Your boundary is the same as it was when you came; but if we fix the line it will be changed in a year, unless you come between us." The Governor, having ascertained that Pretorius was willing, accordingly, to submit the question to arbitration, communicated with the Home Government. After a delay of three years, leave was sent to determine the line, but refused to occupy an intervening country. "This," remarks Mr. Blencowe, "was another example of settling, from a European point of view, a South African question in opposition to those better-informed subordinates on the spot, and producing the very results they had shaped their policy to avoid."

Meantime, the Boers, not relishing the British claim on the Diamond Fields, withdrew their submission. On the other hand, Cetewayo, unable to get a settlement by the English, determined to do it himself, and "to this end pointed all his actions." Before Panda died, small kraals were raised here and there over the land last claimed, in order to keep out the Boers; while, after that event, a similar course was taken on the northern border along the southern bank of the Pongola, occupied by the Boers many years. In all this, one method was pursued: no farmer driven from his homestead, nor his whole land occupied, but he so curtailed that quiet industry was impossible, the Zulus seeking, rather than avoiding, occasions of offence. Some three years ago, the men on the bank of the Pongola had notice to quit their farms; Cetewayo, when appealed to, saying that the land was the Zulus', but if the Boers wished to live on it they could do so by becoming his people. The borderers were, in fact, living in a "state of armed truce." Applications for redress were met by Cetewayo with delays; and, when pressed, he either repudiated Zulu action, or evasively set up a counter-claim, as he found the more convenient. The Landrost at Utrecht would not be thus mystified; but his steadiness and determination were vain. In January, 1877, he was at the King's kraal on the subject of a trespass, and fixed a time when, answer or no answer, he would leave.

Just as this was approaching, says Mr. Blencowe, two gentlemen whom I know were leaving the King, to whom they had been paying a visit of ceremony, when he stopped them, saying, "Don't go yet; I want to talk to you. Rudolph is waiting to talk to me about the Dutchmen, but it is no use talking about them; they don't know what they want; it is one thing to-day and another to-morrow." He took the visitors into his house, and, pointing to a portrait of the Queen, said, "She is a King like me, she rules"; and then, turning to the portrait of the Emperor of Germany, he added, "He too is a King, he rules; but Tommy (meaning President Burgers) cannot rule. The Dutchmen will not obey him; so it is no use for him to send to me: he is a baby, and all the Dutch are babies."

Mr. Blencowe's view of Cetewayo's policy, or rather craft, is this:—"To steer clear of positive aggression or formal breach of relations, but to provoke the Boers to acts which might afford excuse for retaliation where the English interdict would not apply. Thus he made use of Umbaleni, an unpopular aspirant for the Swazie throne, to kill and rob right and left—although he fled to Zululand with only six followers—atrocities which he found means of perpetrating by Zulu help; Cetewayo's reply to complaints against him being, 'He is no Zulu; I have nothing to do with him; you may kill him if you like; I don't care.'"

As between the British and the Zulus, from 1861 onward, the former had no cause of complaint whilst Panda lived. And even since there was free and friendly intercourse. But Cetewayo is one thing; the Zulus are another. The latter, we are assured, entertain a widespread conviction of the greatly superior condition of their native friends in Natal, and are more and more dissatisfied with "the unjust and cruel sovereign under which they themselves live. This (continues Mr. Blencowe) is known to all who have had any intercourse with the Zulus during the last ten years, and has increased since Cetewayo revived the murderous practice of former reigns." It is the view of "nearly all the thoughtful men in the country," said Mr. Finney, in July, 1877.

"How comes it, then, that the nation is so united in the present war?" The answer of Mr. Blencowe to this natural question begins by referring to that sentiment of acquiescent loyalty of which he spoke in his "first paper." Then, those suspected of a disposition to submit are narrowly watched. The existing army is of Cetewayo's own creation, and their sole hope of advancement successful war—a hope which only the crushing of his power can dissipate, with which would disappear all chance of spoil. Nor are the Zulus the only race on earth who "delight in war."

They do not sing, "None but the brave deserve the fair," but they have a song set to the same tune. When the Ungobamakosi regiment danced before the King, this was the burden of their song, "You are a baby, you are afraid to fight. Why do you not let us fight? *The girls will not look at us; they say we are babies. Let us fight! Let us fight!*"

All Mr. Blencowe's illustrations of the footing on which the King and his "Indunas" stand with one another cannot be repeated here. They sometimes excite his impetuous spirit, and anon they check it—alternatives, the logical result of which may be that which Mr. Blencowe, with others, anticipates, the ascent of those Indunas to their King's overthrow when that becomes plainly inevitable. As the case now stands, the Zulus see a tyrannous slaughter in silence, for "no man can trust his brother, and to complain were to die." When Sir Henry Bulwer remonstrated by deputy, Cetewayo replied, "What have I done? I have not begun to kill yet; I shall soon begin; but this is nothing." The slaughter of some five hundred young girls for refusing husbands of twice their own age—"nothing!"

This was hideous, but there are monsters in infidelity as well as monsters in blood. Mr. Blencowe gives a dismal account of the way in which firearms and ammunition get into the hands of the savages. "The Portuguese were not the only or even the principal sellers of arms: some of the Durban merchants sold them. Their principal agent was John Dunn, who at the same time was receiving a salary of 300*l.* a year from the Natal Government as the protector of the Tonga labourers while passing through the Zulu country to Natal." In point of fact, therefore, the base cupidity of British colonists has helped to arm the King of the Zulus against the subjects of Queen Victoria.

In fine, though Mr. Blencowe has little, if anything, to say in mitigation of the craft and cruelty of Cetewayo, he openly avows the opinion that "the Zulus are an intelligent, brave, cheerful, generous, yet pugnacious people, who have all the elements of character necessary as a basis of broad, brilliant, and various Christian virtue."

Epitome of News.

The Princess of Wales remains at Copenhagen, but her two sons, Albert Victor and George, have returned to London, and have joined the Prince of Wales at Marlborough House. They are to embark to-morrow at Portsmouth on board the corvette *Bacchante* for a long cruise, and stay a day or two at Portland on the way.

Prince Leopold arrived at Aberdeen in the despatch boat *Lively* on Saturday, and proceeded in the afternoon by ordinary train to Balmoral.

The Empress Eugenie has accepted the offer of Her Majesty, and will shortly take up her residence at Abergeldy Castle for a brief period.

Lord Cranbrook is staying at Hemstead Park, Staplehurst, Kent. His lordship does not intend to return to Scotland, owing to the present state of affairs in Afghanistan.

The Queen has conferred on Colonel Evelyn Wood the honour of knighthood, investing him with the insignia of Knight Commander of the Bath. Colonel Buller has received from Her Majesty the Victoria Cross. They have been staying for a few days at Balmoral Castle, and left there on Friday.

Madame Thiers arrived at the French Embassy, Albert-gate, on Friday night, from Paris, on a visit to His Excellency Admiral Pothuan.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts and party, including Mr. Henry Irving, Admiral Gordon, Mr. W. Ashmead Bartlett, and others, arrived at Weymouth on board the *Walrus* on Thursday. During the cruise in the Mediterranean, which has been attended by magnificent weather throughout, her ladyship and party have visited numerous places of interest along the coast of Africa, the Ionian Isles, and Italy. The Baroness proposes to continue her yachting till about the end of the month, and will probably visit the Channel Islands.

The Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George has been conferred by Her Majesty's Government on Nubar Pasha. In the letter conferring this distinction on the eminent Egyptian statesman, recognition is made of his services as "the author of the recent reforms in Egypt and the champion of justice and good administration."

The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone and family are in London. They start in a few days for Italy, and are likely to be abroad for six weeks.

The Right Hon. W. H. Smith, M.P., First Lord of the Admiralty, delivered an address on Saturday at the opening of a new national school at Henley-on-Thames. Speaking with reference to State education, he said he did not advocate the piling of subject upon subject, the setting up of what appeared to him to be an unattainable standard of excellence. He attached more importance to the work of education which was done prior to 1872 as a work of love than to the work which is the result of orders emanating from a central authority and directions carried out by local authority and by all the machinery of Government. If the children were confined to three or four subjects, which would enable them to ground themselves in reading, writing, and arithmetic, he thought the results would be better for the country and for the people themselves.

The average price of British wheat last week was 47*s.* 11*d.* per quarter.

Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir A. T. Galt sailed for Canada by the Allan steamer *Peruvian*, on Thursday. A number of tenant farmer delegates from Scotland and the Northern counties, and several districts of Ireland, under the auspices of the Canadian Government, also sailed by the same steamer. They are instructed to report to their constituents at home upon the advantages of the Dominion as a field for settlement.

The New Zealand Government has given orders to stop all free emigration, except in the case of single women.

A public meeting was held on Thursday evening in the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street, London, for the purpose of establishing a national association to promote emigration to the British colonies. Resolutions in accordance with the object of the meeting were passed, and a committee was appointed to consider what steps should be taken to successfully carry out the scheme.

The street collection made by the Hospital Saturday Fund has resulted in 1,028*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.* being obtained for the hospitals of London—an advance of 110*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*, or 11 per cent. on last year.

The *Field* says that the reports from every district are so generally unfavourable that there can be no question about the shooting season of 1879 being almost a blank as far as England is concerned.

Mr. Kirkman Hodgson, formerly the Liberal member for Bristol, died on Thursday night at his seat near Sevenoaks. The deceased gentleman never recovered from the illness which necessitated his retirement from Parliamentary life.

A very interesting meeting has been held at Chatham, showing remarkable longevity. Seventeen of the oldest members of the Zion Baptist Chapel met to celebrate the ninetieth birthday of one of the members. The united ages of the party amounted to 1,232 years, giving an average of seventy-eight years to each. All the party were in good health and in full enjoyment of all their faculties.

The Maharajah Duleep Singh has announced that three of his farms near Bury St. Edmunds—of 1,200, 800, and 350 acres respectively—will be let on very advantageous terms, to meet the agricultural depression. The first has been let at 600*l.* a year; it will now be let for four years for 900*l.*, on a sliding scale, by which no rent will be paid for the first year. The terms for the other farms are similar. The tenants will be allowed to kill rabbits on the farm nine months in the year, and in the plantations at certain periods, and to snare hares three months in the year. The Maharajah's estates abound with game.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* gives a deplorable account of the condition of the workpeople at Middlesbrough. He says that there are about 5,000 men, women, and children destitute there; and he might have added that at Stockton and Darlington the distress is also very great. The ordinary system of poor relief seems to have broken down; and the tradesmen, as well as the employers of labour, are themselves in such straits that they can neither give further credit nor effectively set on foot local relief agencies.

The foundation-stone of the new College for Women, which is to cost over a quarter of a million, was laid at Mount Lee, Egham, Surrey, on Friday. The ceremony was performed by Mr. George Martin, brother-in-law of the founder, Mr. Thomas Holloway. A large number of pupils attended. The extreme frontage is 496 feet. There are to be two quadrangles, each over 200 feet long.

An important experiment, it seems, has been tried by the Banbury guardians in the education of pauper children. They have been sending them to schools in town in place of educating them in the workhouse; and this has been found so beneficial that the Local Government Board are said to have allowed the arrangement to be made permanent. Other unions might do worse than try the experiment.

In his visit to the Rochdale Workhouse, Mr. Bright made an entry into the visitors' book, expressing great satisfaction with the state of the house and the condition of the inmates. "I fear," he added, "many persons and families outside of it are in far less comfortable circumstances than I find its inmates to be." The guardians have passed a unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. Bright for the handsome present of books he made to the workhouse.

The Bristol magistrates gave their decision on Friday in the case of the prosecution of the West of England Bank directors. The chairman of the bench thought there was no evidence of promoting "T. W. Booker and Co." as a fraudulent company, and that the charges of having issued false balance-sheets in 1873, 1874, 1875, and 1876 were not proved, but that upon the charge of having issued false balance-sheets in 1877 and 1878 the magistrates considered that it was their duty to send all the defendants for trial. The defendants were admitted to bail in their respective recognisances of 1,000*l.*, and a surety to the same amount.

At the Brighton Police-court on Friday a summons was granted against a street preacher for having caused a crowd of 200 or 300 persons to assemble on the beach near the West Pier. It was stated that he went about dressed in sheepskins, calling himself "Elijah the Prophet," and saying that he had in a vision received a mission to preach, and that he had ridden to heaven two or three times on a bicycle. The Bench also granted a summons, on the application of the preacher himself, who appeared in court in ordinary attire, against a person for an assault.

Another turret-ship will be added to the strength of the British Navy by the launch of the *Agamemnon* from Chatham Dockyard to-morrow. Like the *Inflexible*, the *Agamemnon* is provided with two turrets, placed, not in a straight line with the ship, but diagonally across the deck, so that both turrets can fire ahead or astern at the same moment.

The Rev. Dr. Porter has been appointed president of Queen's College, Belfast, vice the Rev. Dr. Henry, resigned.

An influential meeting has been held at Berwick-on-Tweed in connection with the scheme for the establishment of a second-grade school for Northumberland, Durham, and North Yorkshire, principally by the legacy of the late Mr. B. Flounders, of Yarm. Mr. Albert Grey, of Hawick, stated that if the three counties raised the 10,000*l.* required for building purposes, St. John's Hospital, Durham, had promised to contribute another 10,000*l.* A resolution was adopted pledging the meeting to do its best to raise its share of the money required.

Mr. Mitchell Henry, M.P., has written to his tenants on the Kylemore estate saying he considers it to be the duty of a landlord to share in the unavoidable losses arising from bad years, and he will therefore allow to each of them the remission of the whole of the present half-year's rent.

Military bands now play every Sunday afternoon in all the parks which are under the control of the Government, but the Metropolitan Board of Works has not as yet granted permission for the two parks within its jurisdiction.

An important meeting of representatives of limited companies was held on Saturday night at Oldham for the purpose of taking into consideration the ruinous state of the cotton trade. It was stated that those present represented capital amounting to fully four millions sterling, and that the number of spindles represented was something over three millions, using at least 6,000 bales of cotton weekly. The meeting determined that it is desirable in the interests of the cotton spinners of the borough, and the limited companies in particular, to at once adopt a system of short time, either by working alternate weeks or three days per week for one month. It was also resolved to commence short time at once so far as is practicable.

It is stated that 10,000 persons are idle in consequence of the strike in the cotton trade at Ashton-under-Lyne.

Some 20,000 persons are reported to have been present at the great meeting in aid of the new tenant-right agitation held at Mallow on Sunday. The Roman Catholic priests of Mallow were not present, their absence being due, it is said, to fear of insult in consequence of the feeling aroused by the proceedings of the Christian Brothers. Resolutions were passed affirming that it is impossible for the farmers to pay present rents, and calling for "security for tenants." Among those on the platform were Mr. J. G. McCarthy, M.P., Colonel Colthurst, M.P., Mr. W. H. O'Sullivan, M.P., and Sir J. Neale McKenna, M.P. The tone of the speaking was moderate, and the proceedings passed off quietly, but great disappointment, we are told, was felt by the masses that Mr. Parnell did not attend. In his letter of apology Mr. Parnell wrote:—"Your demonstration will be a great success. It is of the utmost importance at the present crisis that every assistance and encouragement should be given to the tenant-farmers of Ireland, to enable them to obtain a suitable reduction of unfair rents and a permanent settlement of the land question. This can be done only by the creation and fostering of a just public opinion, the maintenance of a determined attitude by the farmers themselves, and the establishment of an adequate and widespread organisation throughout the country." Mr. O'Connor Power wrote:—"My theory of land reform is to abolish landlordism and make the cultivator the owner of the soil."

To-morrow Lord Hartington will open some new schools in Newcastle. More than a dozen local M.P.'s have promised to attend. The Earl of Durham, Lord Lambton, Sir John Swinburne, the Dean of Durham, and probably two of Lord Hartington's colleagues are also likely to be there. In the evening the Mayor will preside at a public meeting, at which Lord Hartington will present the prizes to the successful students. The political meetings on Friday also promise to be largely attended. The addresses from the local Liberal Associations will be presented in the Town Hall in the afternoon, and at night a public meeting will be held in the Tyne Theatre.

The banquet to be given to Sir W. Harcourt by the Liverpool Reform Club is fixed for the 6th October.

The Duke of Northumberland, at his recent rents held throughout Northumberland, has returned to all his tenantry, both on arable and pasture lands, 10 per cent. on their half-year's rental.

Mr. John Bright, in a letter to a gentleman in New York on the policy of the Canadian Government, states that it seems to him to be injurious to the inhabitants of the Dominion, and if persisted in will be fatal to its connection with the mother country. He cannot think that the Protectionist policy being pursued in the United States and in Canada will continue very long.

The *Mark-lane Express*, in its review of the corn trade on Monday, states that a large portion of the wheat and barley crops have been cut and housed in the southern counties. From two and a half to three quarters per acre seem to be the average yield of wheat, with perhaps some reservation in favour

of oats. It may be said that all spring corn crops are to a great extent failures.

There have been renewed serious disturbances in Lurgan. One man was stabbed, and the police were stoned. Several of the rioters are in custody.

At the Old Bailey on Monday the Common Serjeant, in charging the grand jury, alluded to the heavy nature of the calendar. There were two charges of wilful murder, twelve of manslaughter, and several of attempted murder.

The death of Dr. Carlyle, younger brother of Mr. Thomas Carlyle, is announced from Dumfries. Dr. Carlyle was known as a translator of "Dante," and he rendered laborious assistance to his brother in collecting materials for Mr. Carlyle's "History of Frederick the Great."

Orders for 16,000 tons of Cleveland pig-iron have been received from the United States during the last few days by firms in Middlesbrough and West Hartlepool. Orders for other kinds of iron are in course of negotiation.

It may be mentioned, as indicating how much Glasgow is suffering from bad trade, that there are nearly 4,000 fewer names on the municipal register this year than was the case last year. While 23,881 persons failed to pay their poor rates in 1878, as many as 28,013 were defaulters this year. The number on the list for the Parliamentary burgh is 57,596, being a decrease of 3,473 as compared with 1878.

The twelfth annual Congress of the Trade Unions was opened at Edinburgh on Monday; Mr. J. D. Prior, of Manchester, chairman of the Parliamentary committee, presiding. One hundred and fifteen delegates attended. The chairman, in opening the proceedings, advocated the extension of the political action of the Congress, and in alluding to the depression in trade stated that four unions had spent 260,000*l.* in relieving members. He called upon the Congress to consider measures to prevent the recurrence of distress among millions of workmen. He particularly referred to the land laws, and advocated special action on the subject. The officers having been elected, Mr. Gibson being chosen president, Mr. Broadhurst read the report of the Parliamentary committee, which dealt at length with the legislation of the last session, condemning the Agricultural Commission as the play of *Hamlet* with the part of the Prince left out. In reviewing the state of trade, the report declared that never in the existence of the committee had such distress existed. The depression was general. In conclusion, the report advocated political action and the reorganisation and federation of trade unions.

It is now stated authoritatively that the Prince of Wales will not visit Deeside this season. His Royal Highness will cross to Cherbourg at the end of this week, and thence proceed to Copenhagen.

In connection with the proposed Day of National Humiliation, the following memorial is being signed at Derby:—

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

We, your Majesty's most loyal and humble servants, residing in Derby, and desiring to fear God and honour their Queen, approach the throne earnestly beseeching your Majesty promptly to exercise your royal prerogative to proclaim a day of humiliation, prayer, and praise, to be set apart by all who are religiously and devoutly disposed to deprecate the judgments which we most righteously have deserved, to confess our innumerable sins, to acknowledge with thankfulness our undeserved mercies, and with united hearts and voices to invoke the Divine blessing on our nation, through the merits and intercessions of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

And your petitioners will humbly pray, &c.

The official liquidators of the West of England Bank have now received 350,000*l.* in response to the calls made on the shareholders. Further sums are still coming in. The original deficiency was 300,000*l.* but the expenses of winding-up have added another 100,000*l.* to the amount the shareholders have to meet a prodigious charge!

Mr. Rothery, Wreck Commissioner, gave judgment on Saturday at the close of the inquiry into the circumstances attending the collision in the Thames between the City of London and the Vesta. The Commissioner said that in the opinion of the Court there was a good look-out on board the City of London, and on rounding Tripcock Point she took proper steps by porting her helm, and going to the south shore. As regarded the Vesta, although they did not think the look-out was what it ought to have been, yet they thought the whole blame of the collision rested upon the pilot of the Vesta for having taken a wrong manœuvre.

Miss Louisa Lock, "captain" of the "Salvation Army" in the Rhondda—recently liberated from Cardiff Gaol, after a three days' sojourn there under circumstances already detailed—has received the following telegram from the "head" of the movement:—"From General Booth, Glasgow, to 'Captain' Louisa Lock, Pentre." The General commends Miss Lock for her conduct in going to prison, and is glad that he has officers so faithful and worthy. Wales to Jesus." On Friday night the Rev. Mr. Jones, Welsh Wesleyan minister, Treherbert, and the Rev. Enoch Hill, Llwynpia, also of the Wesleyan connexion, preached at the Public Hall, Pentre, to a very crowded congregation.

M. Achard, the Moderate Republican candidate at Bordeaux, polled on Sunday at the second ballot 4,698 votes, against 4,440 given for M. Blanqui, and was, therefore, elected. It is stated that some 40,000 of the electors abstained from voting.

In addition to the second ballot at Bordeaux on Sunday, there were elections for the Chamber of

Deputies at Giungamp and Valence. At Giungamp M. Ollivier, Bonapartist, was returned, and a Republican was returned for Valence.

More than 100 of the amnestied Communists arrived in Paris on Sunday. They were addressed by M. Louis Blanc, who expressed an anticipation of a total amnesty.

Prince Bismarck is expected at Vienna on the 21st. The attempts made to bring about a meeting between him and Prince Gortschakoff are said to have failed.

The committee of the African International Association has sent orders to M. Cambier, chief of the Belgian expedition, to advance about 300 miles beyond Lake Tanganyika in a north-westerly direction, and to found a station at Nyangwe, on the Lualaba, or Congo. M. Papelin, who commands another Belgian expedition, which left Zanzibar towards the middle of last July, will establish a station, destined to be the first of the series, on the eastern shores of Lake Tanganyika. Mr. Stanley is endeavouring to ascend the Congo. In case of success he may meet M. Cambier's expedition.

Socialism has ceased to be sensational in Germany, but it quietly holds its own, nevertheless, and we have not infrequent signs of the Socialist power at elections. The latest indication of this influence is at Leipzig, where Liebknecht, a Socialist leader, has been elected representative of the city in the Saxon Diet.

The German Emperor arrived at Dantzic on Thursday, and had a brilliant reception. His Majesty was accompanied by the Crown Prince. In connection with the visit there were a naval review and a dinner. At the latter the Emperor was presented with an address, read by the Governor of West Prussia. In the evening the town was illuminated, and a ball was given which was attended by His Majesty and a company numbering 2,000 persons.

The Italian Government have ordered eight more 100-ton guns to be made by Sir W. Armstrong at Elswick. These enormous weapons are to be breech-loaders. They are intended for the armament of the Italia and the Lepanto; the eight 100-ton muzzle-loaders already supplied being destined for the Dandolo and the Duilio. When this great fleet shall be completed the Italians will possess the largest ironclads in the world. Our own artillerymen are enraptured with the performance of the 80-ton gun, which has been tried at Woolwich, and found capable of piercing an ironclad defended by thirty-two inches of iron.

The gradual occupation of the Sandjak of Novi-Bazar by the Austrians is proceeding peaceably. Plevlje is still jointly occupied by them and by the Turks. It is expected, however, that Husni Pasha will procure the withdrawal of the Turkish troops. General Kilic, with two battalions of infantry, one mountain battery, and one regiment of cavalry occupied the important position of Priepolje without opposition on Sunday, and found population entirely friendly.

It is stated from Constantinople that the Porte has appealed to the Russian Government to use its influence with the Bulgarian Christians in Eastern Roumelia for the purpose of causing them to cease from the system of ill-treatment which they have hitherto pursued towards the Mussulmans. The Russian delegate in the province, on being questioned on the subject, declared that the reports of the acts of violence said to have been committed by the Bulgarians were exaggerated, but promised to use his endeavours to remove all ground for any such statements in the future.

A despatch from Constantinople says that 2,000 Turkish refugees have arrived at Bourgas in a terrible state of destitution and clamouring for bread; a number of Mussulmans without any means of subsistence are also reported to have made their appearance at Adrianople. The Russian Ambassador has represented to the Porte the danger of permitting Turkish refugees from Eastern Roumelia to return to their former homes, on the ground of the probability of a serious conflict arising between them and the Christians, and the Porte has given orders to the authorities to put an end to the influx of these refugees.

A sanguinary conflict is reported to have occurred at Aidos, in Eastern Roumelia, between the Christian inhabitants and the returned Mussulman refugees. The latter pillaged the bakers' shops, and fifteen persons were killed before tranquillity was restored.

It is rumoured that Prince Dondoukoff-Korsakoff is to be appointed Governor-General of Turkestan, in place of General Kanfmann.

The Constantinople correspondent of the *Standard* is informed that the Sultan, being desirous of regulating the expenditure of the palace, has reinstated, under the presidency of Dervish Pasha, the commission appointed four months ago for the purpose of making a careful examination of the palace accounts. It is hoped by this means that a saving of 200,000*l.* per annum may be obtained. The same despatch states that the Ottoman Bank paid over on Tuesday 60,000*l.* on account of the 300,000*l.* loan, and that the entire sum will be paid in six parts.

The Khedive is expected at Constantinople to-morrow, and will be received on his arrival in the Dardanelles by two aides-de-camp of the Sultan.

It is expected that Baron Haymerle will succeed Count Andrassy as Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs before the end of the present month.

The King of Holland, in opening the session of Parliament on Monday, deplored the depression which existed in the kingdom, but declared that

the Government would "maintain the salutary principles of free trade."

Senor Canovas del Castillo, it is officially announced, will not go to Vienna; but the mission of asking the hand of the Archduchess Marie Christine will be entrusted to the Dukes of Ossuna and Medina Sidonia.

Intelligence received at New York from Santiago de Cuba states that the slaves had demanded their liberty, which the masters promised on condition that they engaged to continue to work for wages for three years. The slaves, however, are running away, and the authorities have appealed to the Captain-General to advise them.

The British Agricultural Commissioners, Mr. C. S. Read, M.P., and Mr. A. Pell, M.P., have visited the principal dairy districts in New York State, and have gone to Toronto.

Mr. Evarts, the American Secretary of State, has arrived at Toronto on a visit to the Marquis of Lorne. In a speech made by him, Mr. Evarts discussed the question pending between England and his Government relative to the Fortune Bay fishery dispute, and in the course of his remarks is said to have passed a warm encomium on the English jurists. He said it was impossible that any maladjustment or delays should disturb the peaceful and respectful relations subsisting between the United States and Canada. The Halifax Award discussion was at an end.

The Pacific Steamship Company has lost the Illimani, a fine vessel on the Liverpool and Valparaiso station. The ship struck on Mocha Island on July 18, and sank in deep water. No lives were lost. The Illimani and her cargo were valued at 150,000*l.*, exclusive of a large amount of specie which was on board.

During the past week there were 132 cases of yellow fever and forty-eight deaths at Memphis.

Miscellaneous.

THE POET LAUREATE AND HIS NAME.—Lionel Tennyson will, I hear, succeed to the Lincolnshire estate of his uncle, the Rev. Charles Turner, whose surname he will consequently assume. He is the Laureate's younger son, and he married the daughter of another poet, Frederick Locker, in the Abbey, about two years ago. He is indeed lucky to have a sire and an elder brother who, rather than resign the name of Tennyson, pass on to him a pleasant residence and a property worth more than a thousand a year.—*Truth*.

CETEWAYO'S TUSK.—The tusk of ivory sent by Cetewayo to Lord Chelmsford as a peace offering, or rather as an evidence of his desire for peace, on Monday arrived safely at the Colonial Office, Whitehall. The tusk is an enormous one in point of size, being seven feet in length and about half a yard in circumference at the girth. It is the finest specimen of an elephant's tusk that has probably ever reached this country, and must have belonged to an animal of prodigious dimensions. Sir Evelyn Wood had charge of the tusk, which was on Monday presented to the Colonial Secretary; and, as was the case with King Dahomey's seat and King Coffee Calcalli's umbrella, it is believed that the tusk will be shortly on exhibition at South Kensington.

A VERY HARD CASE.—The children of a man named Bayley, living in a metropolitan suburb, took chicken-pox the other day. A medical officer declared they were suffering from small-pox, and ordered the whole household to go into hospital. Having been kept there for a fortnight, they have been discharged, with the consolatory assurance that the doctor's diagnosis was erroneous, that they never as a matter of fact had small-pox, and that what the children had caught was chicken-pox—a comparatively innocuous form of infantile ailment. Thus the whole family has been exposed for a lengthened time to the contagion of a most mortal and loathsome malady. The breadwinner has lost his situation and a fortnight's work, and the local authorities magnanimously offer by way of compensation the sum of five shillings in money, two shillings' worth of groceries, and four loaves of bread, to be continued by way of allowance for a week!

A JOURNALIST'S GOLDEN WEDDING.—Mr. and Mrs. Edward Baines, of Leeds, celebrated their golden wedding on Tuesday week. In connection with the event the members of the staff of the *Leeds Mercury*, to the number of nearly 200, presented an address of congratulation to Mr. and Mrs. Baines. The address is contained in a quarto volume, handsomely bound in crimson morocco, finished and lettered in gold, and inscribed, "Golden Wedding, 1879: Mr. and Mrs. Edward Baines." The first page consists of three panels, encircled in a gold border; the top panel containing a water-colour drawing of the office in Albion-street. The crest and arms of Mr. Baines in heraldic colours occupy the second panel; and the third panel contains a water-colour drawing of the *Mercury* office buildings in Bank-street. The title-page follows, the lettering being in crimson, gold, and blue, on a pale amber ground, enclosed in a broad border of gold and colours. Then follow photographs of Mr. and Mrs. Baines on an illuminated ground. The fourth page consists of a photograph from the *Leeds Mercury* of Sept. 12, 1829, containing the announcement of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Baines.

A TELEPHONE EXCHANGE.—There seems now little reason to doubt that London will shortly be supplied with a telephone exchange, and that people will be able to communicate with each other

by their voices as easily over a distance of some miles as if they were in the same room. A subscriber who has a wire, with a receiver and a transmitter in his house, signifies his wish to the central office to be put in communication with another subscriber. Immediately the two wires are connected, and a conversation can be carried on without the slightest difficulty. A complete exhibition of the apparatus was given the other day, and the convenience which the invention will be to men of business was made abundantly clear. Directions could be given without the slightest possibility of error, and the tones of the voice were conveyed with complete accuracy. Many a man who would not be troubled to work or watch an ordinary telegraphic apparatus will at once make use of the telephone for the ordinary purposes of his daily business. Still more remarkable, however, than the communication thus established was the experiment made with the telephone upon a mechanical type-setter. By means of speaking through a telephone a complete series of sentences was set up in type in a composing stick. The only drawback to the telephone exchange itself appears to be that we are threatened with a number more wires running from house to house. These are dangerous, not so much to householders as to passers by; and although the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's have, it seems, made no objection to the use of the cathedral as a station, some steps ought to be taken to see that the wires are securely placed.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE TROUBLES OF A STREET ARAB.—Mr. P. Cameron writes to the *Manchester Guardian*:—"Whilst passing along London-road last night about 11.30, I was accosted by a lad about eight years of age, who desired me to buy a box of matches. He was crying bitterly, and he followed me a long way, beseeching me to give him a penny for the box. As I have been cheated several times by children affecting great distress, I ordered him rather gruffly to begone; and as he slunk away he sobbed in a manner which went to my heart. I walked on a few paces, but my conscience compelled me to turn back and question the boy. I asked him what he cried for. He replied through his tears that he dare not go home, because his mother would 'leather' him, as he had had bad luck that day. As I am much interested in the fate of these miserable street arabs, I seized the opportunity to learn as much as possible about their manner of making a living. The boy informed me that his mother gave him three-halfpence in the morning, and told him he must not return till he had earned 7d., or else he would 'catch it.' He invested one penny of this capital in two halfpenny boxes of matches, which he sold in the course of the day for one penny each. Then he bought another two, but had only managed to dispose of one of them, leaving him at that late hour with only 2½d. and a box of matches, i.e., he had only doubled his capital instead of quadrupling it, as commanded. He said that his little brother had gone home before him, and he could not help crying, as his mother always 'leathered' him if he did not come home with the money in time. I felt anxious to know the name and address of this unnatural woman. The boy gave it readily enough, and I am prepared to divulge it to the proper authorities if desired. The lad was covered with rags and tatters from head to foot, but he had an intelligent face, and he spoke both correctly and modestly. After rewarding him for his information I turned homeward, meditating on the horrible fact that with all our civilisation there should exist parents who enslave their children, and deliberately make their lives a blight to them and a curse to society."

THE FRENCH PRESIDENT AT HOME.—A correspondent of the *Figaro*, not, perhaps, the most reliable of journals, gives an account of the simple mode of life of President Grévy in his retreat at Mont-sous-Vaudrey. The honours which have been thrust upon M. Grévy do not seem to have turned his head; and he endeavours as much as possible to live an ostentatious, unpretending sort of existence:—Mont-sous-Vaudrey is a pretty little village, about twelve miles from Dale, in a valley formed by two rivers renowned for their trout, the Lône and the Cuisance. The valley, which from its charming aspect almost deserves its romantic name, the Val d'Amour, is surrounded on every side by noble forests well stored with game, from the partridge and hare to the wolf and wild boar. The President is a keen sportsman, and, I am told, a first-rate shot. The gate of M. Grévy's modest house opens in the main square of the village, and an avenue of some thirty yards leads to the unpretending dwelling. The grounds are extensive and well kept. There is a lawn and a profusion of flowers. The Cuisance runs through the park, and in sight of the house. Its limpid waters break over a miniature cataract, and expand into an ornamental piece of water covered with exotic waterfowl, for M. Grévy has a passion for birds and flowers. A large and well stocked aviary stands near the house. Beyond the lawn is the park, which is remarkable for the size of its timber. There is also a well-kept kitchen garden, and even in Paris the Presidential table is supplied exclusively with vegetables and fruit grown by himself. The house is something like its master—small, but well built, compact, and unpretending. It has only two storeys. On the ground-floor there are five rooms—the hall, the dining and drawing rooms, the billiard-room, the study, and the kitchen. The furniture is comfortable and substantial. In the hall there are a large cane-bottomed settee and a few chairs. The drawing-room furniture is yellow damask. The dining-room is panelled with old oak, and adorned

with pictures commemorating feats with the gun and rod. The study is remarkable for its library, which affords a mixture of the light and the severe style of literature, dry law treatises and the *chefs d'œuvre* of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries elbowing each other on stained oak tablets. On the upper storey are six bedrooms, three being reserved for friends. M. Grévy does not give what may be called "dinner parties" while in his rural retreat, but has invariably two or three friends for dinner, and generally beats them at billiards in the evening. In his ante-Præsidential days shooting and fishing used to employ his mornings, but the cares of State this year will somewhat interfere with his enjoyment of his favourite sports. I need hardly say that he is popular with his townspeople, who appreciate very highly the simple modesty and good taste with which their illustrious compatriot bears the honour which political vicissitudes have thrust upon him.

Gleanings.

"Formerly one sermon converted 3,000 sinners," said Elder Burgess, of Butler University, in a sermon recently; "now it takes 3,000 sermons to convert one sinner."

A peasant newly arrived at Paris, pointing to the Palais de Justice, asked an advocate, who was carrying his bag, what building it was. "It is a mill," replied the lawyer, to quiz the bumpkin. "I thought as much," replied the countryman, "for I see a good many asses at the door with sacks."

SQUARING THE CIRCLE.—A contemporary in the farming interest says at the last fair there were about 1,000 head, and adds that all "came from a circle ten miles square."

IRISH REASONING.—A letter was read at the National Convention meeting at Dublin from P. O'Gorman which contained the following sentence:—"I am in hopes that Providence may enable us to save the harvest yet, but it will require the presence and utmost activity and vigilance of all concerned to do so."

AMERICAN ADVERTISEMENT.—When you are taking a stroll in the dark dense forest, or amid the mountain's lofty crags and fastnesses, and hearing a deep bass voice waking the echoes with its resonance, do not be alarmed! 'Tis not a bandit bold, nor a communistic leader drilling his forces, nor yet an escaped lunatic, but only the old man of the woods warning all persons to use none other than Donnelly's Yeast Powder.

PASSING THE OLD MAN ON.—At a recent fashionable dinner-party in town an elderly cousin from beyond the border was among the guests. On entering his name was called out by James No. 1, and then by Nos. 2 and 3, which seemed to exasperate the old gentleman, as he exclaimed, "Eh, mon, don't be in such a hurry! I am coming as fast as I can!"

A NEW JINGO SONG.—A correspondent of the *Echo* speaks of a new Jingo song, of which the following is a specimen verse. We don't say it is not an invention—for is not Jingoism nearly extinct? still the lines are worth quoting:

"We don't want to fight, but by Jingo if we do,
We can hunt the savage Afghan, or pot the wild Zulu;
We can bungle and mismanage the first campaign or two
Can freely spend our country's blood and gold—and muddle through."

ABSENCE OF MIND.—It is related, in connection with the absent-mindedness of Walter Savage Landor, that on one occasion, having suffered not long before from leaving the key of his portmanteau behind him, he took special precautions before starting on a journey to see that his keys were secure in his pocket. When, however, he produced them in triumph at his journey's end he found that this time he had left the portmanteau behind.

ARSENICAL POISONING BY SWEETMEATS.—In the health report just issued by Dr. Russell, of Glasgow, he has called attention to two cases of arsenical poisoning which have occurred in the city from eating some fancy green-coloured sweetmeats, which, on examination, were found to contain both arsenic and copper. Both the children affected recovered; but Dr. Russell has done well in drawing renewed attention to the danger involved in the combination of any green material with anything applied to the mouths of children.

A PARTING SHOT.—When Bismarck was ambassador at St. Petersburg, he was one evening at the palace of Prince Bariatinski, and said so many sharp biting things of this and that public personage that the guests who heard him ended by feeling quite uncomfortable. At last His Excellency rose to go, and a few moments afterwards the yard-dog was heard barking furiously at him as he made for his carriage. Prince Bariatinski could not miss this chance of being even with the man who had just shown himself so snapping; so, throwing open the window, he exclaimed, "Monsieur Ambassadeur, pray do not bite my dog!"

A CASE OF LEGAL NICETY.—The Rev. H. M. Souder, D.D., a missionary in India, tells the following story:—"Four men, partners in business, bought some cotton bales. That the rats might not destroy the cotton they purchased a cat. They agreed that each of the four should own a particular leg of the cat; and each adorned with beads and other ornaments the leg thus apportioned to him. The cat by an accident injured one of its legs. The owner of the member wound around it a rag soaked in oil. The cat, going too near the hearth, set this rag on fire, and being in great pain, rushed

in among the cotton, where she was accustomed to hunt rats. The cotton took fire and was burned up. It was a total loss. The three partners brought a suit to recover the value of the cotton against the partner who owned this particular leg of the cat. The judge examined the case and decided thus:—"The leg that had the oiled rag on it was hurt; the cat could not use that leg; in fact, held up that leg and ran with the three legs. The three unhurt legs, therefore, carried the fire to the cotton, and alone are culpable. The injured leg is not to be blamed. The three partners who owned the three legs with which the cat ran to the cotton will pay the whole value of the bales to the partner who was the proprietor of the injured leg."

A LAWYER SOLD.—Some time since a number of lawyers invested in and nailed up at their desks a sign reading that they were very busy just then, but would see the visitor later. One day a withered-up old man entered an office, gazed stupidly around, and at last inquired:—"Can I see the lawyer for a few minutes?" He had a book under his arm, and that settled his case. His eyes were directed to the sign, and after reading it he turned away, saying, "Well, if you're very busy I won't stop. It was a case where there was about 40,000% at stake, and—" But he was out in the hall by that time and he didn't seem to hear the invitation to come back. The lawyer, vexed and annoyed, tore down the sign at once and hoped the old man might return. Sure enough, he entered the office again yesterday, and, not seeing the sign, he sat down and asked:—"Very busy this morning?" "Oh, no—plenty of time," was the reply. "Sure I won't annoy you?" "Oh, you can't annoy me at all. I shall listen to you with the greatest of pleasure." "Well, then," said the old man as he slowly undid his book, "I'd like to call your attention to this 'Life of Napoleon.' It is said that the engravings alone cost 40,000%. We are selling this book at—" The lawyer grew quite white around the mouth, and asked to be excused for a moment. He put on his hat and went down for a ride on the omnibus, calculating to be gone just two hours.—*American Paper*.

AN AMERICAN REVIVALIST SERMON.—According to the *New York Herald*, the revival movement in America is spreading most satisfactorily. Camp meetings are being held all over the country, black and white divines rival each other in eloquent pleadings, and, generally speaking, the work is in full swing. At one of these gatherings, held in Cornstock Grove, near Mount Vernon village, Winchester County, a very remarkable discourse was, it is said, productive of much good. About eight hundred people—half of them coloured—having assembled in tents at the rural spot indicated, a platform was erected for the ministers, and a hymn was sung. Perhaps its pleasant refrain—which ran, "Although you see me go along so, One mo' ribber to cross, I hab my trials here below, One more ribber to cross"—prepared the audience for what was to follow, and exalted them into a suitable frame of mind. Be this as it may, however, the sermon which followed was greeted at its close with loud cries of approval, and was so highly esteemed that one more than ordinarily beautiful passage was, happily, preserved. It dealt with the story of the young man who went down from Jericho and fell among thieves, and ran thus: "He fell among 'em, bredden," said the preacher, who, it is remarked, had a very hoarse voice, "'cos he was young an' foolish. Why does a man fall among sich people? Because he neglects de fust principles of his immaterial natur an' 'lows hisself to be carried away by de gusts of consumin' and consequential passion, and turnin' a deaf an' impenetrable ear to de still, small voice of conscientiousness, goes along like a two-forty mule to his own inscrutable destruction." No wonder the people at the camp meeting wished to hear that preacher again!—*Daily Telegraph*.

EPPS'S GLYCERINE JUJUBES.—CAUTION!—These effective and agreeable confections are sold by most Chemists; by others, however, attempts are often made at substitution. We therefore deem it necessary to caution the public that they can only be obtained in boxes, 6d. and 1s., labelled JAMES EPPS and Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, 48, Threadneedle-street, and 170, Piccadilly, London.

"COCA LEAF, WORDSWORTH'S CHEMICAL FOOD OF HEALTH," prepared from "Erythroxylou-Coca," the successful remedy for debility, nervousness, neuralgia, sleeplessness, and rheumatism. 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 5s., and 15s.; sent free on receipt of P.O.O.—H. Wordsworth and Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, 6, Sloane-street, Knightsbridge, London.

WARNING! RECKITT'S PARIS BLUE.—The marked superiority of this Laundry Blue over all others, and the quick appreciation of its merits by the public have been attended by the usual results—viz., a flood of imitations. The merit of the latter mainly consists in the ingenuity exerted, not simply in imitating the square shape, but making the general appearance of the wrappers resemble that of the genuine article. The manufacturers beg therefore to caution all buyers to see "Reckitt's Paris Blue" on each packet.

DO YOUR "DYEING" AT HOME.—A sixpenny bottle of Judson's Magenta will dye a table cover or a small curtain completely in ten minutes in a pailful of water. Silk scarfs, veils, braid, ribbons, may be dyed crimson, scarlet, violet, &c., in a basin of water. Judson's Dyes. Sold by chemists everywhere.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The chief wonder of modern times.—This incomparable Medicine increases the appetite, strengthens the stomach, cleanses the liver, corrects biliousness, and prevents flatulency, purifies the system, invigorates the nerves, and reinstates sound health. The enormous demand for these Pills throughout the globe astonishes everybody, and a single trial convinces the most sceptical that no medicine equals Holloway's Pills in its ability to remove all complaints incidental to the human race. They are a blessing to the afflicted, a boon to all who labour under internal or external disease. The purification of the blood, removal of all restraints from the secretive organs, and gentle aperient action, are the prolific sources of the extensive curative range of Holloway's Pills.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

MOSS.—July 3, at Antananarivo, Madagascar, wife of Rev. C. F. Moss, a daughter.
BAINES.—Sept. 14, at Dane Hills View, Leicester, the wife of G. H. Baines, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

RIDGWAY—DAWBARN.—Sept. 4, at the Centenary Baptist Chapel, March, Thomas Joseph, son of the late Isaac Ridgway, of Wildersmoor House, Lymington, to Emily, eldest daughter of Robert Dawbarn, jun., of Eastwood House, March, Solicitor.
THOMAS—CATHERALL.—Sept. 9, at the Congregational Church, Westminster Road, Mold, by the Rev. D. Burford Hooks (pastor), the Rev. J. D. Thomas, minister of the Congregational Church, Runcorn, to Martha, third daughter of W. Catherall, Esq., Frennbrigog, Buckley, vice-chairman of the Mold School Board.
WILLMOTT—JOHNSON.—Sept. 9, at Christ Church, Aston Park, near Birmingham, by the Rev. W. Walters, James, eldest son of Richard Willmott, to Clara Jane, only daughter of T. L. Johnson, jun., both of Aston Manor.
BUCKLEY—BODDEN.—Sept. 10, at Hope Chapel, Oldham, by the Rev. R. M. Davies, assisted by the Rev. John Hodgson, James, son of late Abraham Buckley, of Oldham, to Jane, youngest daughter of William Bodden, of The Firs, Ashton-under-Lyme.
CARPENTER—CHILD.—Sept. 10, at Clapton-park Chapel, by the Rev. Samuel Hebditch, William, eldest son of William Carpenter, of West Green Lodge, Tottenham, to Ruth Agnes, fourth daughter of Henry Child, of Down-road, Clapton and Doctors Commons. No cards. At home at Linden Lodge, Green Lanes, Wood Green, after 8th October.
GEE—TATE.—Sept. 10, at Renshaw Street Chapel, Liverpool, by the Rev. Charles Beard, B.A., Thomas Gee, of Liverpool, eldest son of Thomas Gee, Esq., of Denbigh, to Isolina, eldest daughter of Henry Tate, Esq., of Highfield, Woolton, Liverpool.
TAYLOR—TAYLOR.—Sept. 10, at the Baptist Chapel, Grosvenor Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock, by the Rev. C. A. Davis, of Bradford, assisted by the Rev. Henry Wright, James Arthur, eldest son of James Taylor, of Longsight, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of George Taylor, of Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire.
TOLLER—WILLIAMS.—Sept. 10, at New Court Chapel, Tollington-park, Frederick Gibson Toller, of Finsbury-park, N. son of the late Rev. H. Toller, of Market Harborough, to Bertha, eldest daughter of Mr. T. Williams, Hornsey Rise, N.
PROCTOR—RICE.—Sept. 11, at East Parade Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. A. H. Byles, B.A., Charles Webster Proctor, third son of the late Charles Proctor, to Elizabeth Anne, only daughter of the late J. R. W. Rice, Bank House, Clarendon Road, Leeds.
REID—ANDERSON.—Sept. 11, at St. George's Presbyterian Church, Morpeth, the Rev. J. B. Reid, M.A., minister of the Free Church, Wigtown, to Frances, daughter of the Rev. J. Anderson, D.D.
WESTLEY—GARNER.—Sept. 11, at Kensington Chapel, by the Rev. J. P. Chown, of Bloomsbury, Joseph Westley, of Blisworth, to Sarah, second daughter of the late Wm. Garner, of Harpole, Northamptonshire.

DEATH.

SMITH.—Sept. 15, at his residence, King's Ride, Ascot, Berks, John Benjamin Smith, Esq., First President of the Anti-Corn Law League, and for twenty-two years M.P. for Stockport, aged 85 years.

HAPPY DAYS! There is something of regret and gloom in the first appearance of grey hairs; our prospects are often blighted by their premature appearance. Mrs. S. A. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR RESTORER happily affords a safe and sure means for restoring them again to the freshness and beauty of youth. It is the old established standard and reliable article known and spoken most highly of in every civilised country. It requires only a few applications to restore grey hair to its youthful colour and lustrous beauty, and induce luxuriant growth, and its occasional use is all that is needed to preserve it in its highest perfection and beauty. Dandruff is quickly and permanently removed. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers.

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"He that hath ears to hear let him hear." HEALTH, DIET, AND DEAFNESS, NOISES IN THE EARS.

THE Rev. E. J. SILVERTON will send his Health Advocate, giving important advice and particulars on the above subjects, free to any person, showing how Deafness may be at once relieved and ultimately cured. Many most interesting cases are set forth. Thousands of people are hearing Sermons and Lectures to-day who would have remained deaf had they not applied to Mr. Silvertton. When a remedy is so successful, ought not every deaf person in the kingdom to try it, if it be in his or her power?

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The New Lower School, under the care of Mrs. Butler (wife of Mr. Edward A. Butler, B.A., B.Sc.) will be OPENED at CHRISTMAS.

The following successes at public examinations have been achieved by boys from this school during the last nine months:—

London University First B.A.	1
" " Matriculation in Honours	3
" " Matriculation in 1st Division	3
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" " Juniors	14
College of Preceptors, First Prize for Mathematics.	
Six First Class, 23 Second Class, 14 Third Class—total,	43.

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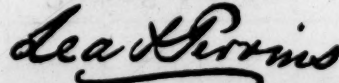
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BROOKS' PATENT GLACÉ THREAD. BROOKS' CROCHET & TATTLING COTTON.
 BROOKS' SIX-CORD SOFT COTTON. BROOKS' EMBROIDERY COTTON.

ALL DRAPERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

GOLD MEDAL PARIS EXHIBITION.

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Fry's Celebrated Caracas Cocoa, 1s. 4d. per lb.

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This Tobacco is now put up in 1-oz. Packets, in addition to other sizes, the label being a reduced fac-simile of that used for the 2-oz. Packets. Also in Cigarettes, in boxes of ten each, bearing the Name and Trade Mark of

W. D. & H. O. WILLS.

FURNISH YOUR HOUSE WITH THE BEST ARTICLES

Table Knives, Ivory, per doz. from 13/ to 55/
 Electro Forks—Table, from 24/; Spoons, from 24/
 Papier Mache Tea Trays, in Sets, 21/ 56/ 95/
 Electro Tea and Coffee Sets, from £3 7/
 Dish Covers—Tin 21/; Metal, 65/; Electro, £11 11/
 Electro Cruets and Liqueurs.
 Lamps—Patent Rock Oil, Moderator, &c.
 Bronzed Tea and Coffee Urns.
 Coal Scuttles, Vases, Boxes, &c.
 China and Glass—Dinner Services, &c.

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DEANE'S
 A.D. 1700.

Fenders—Bright, 45/ to £15; Bronze, 3/ to £6
 Stoves—Bright, Black, Register, Hot-air, &c.
 Baths—Domestic, Fixed, and Travelling.
 Bedsteads—Brass and Iron, with Bedding.
 Cornices—Cornice-poles, Ends, Bands, &c.
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 Kitcheners—From 3-ft. £3, to 6-ft., £30
 Kitchen Utensils, Turnery Goods,
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 Garden Tools Lawn Mowers, Rollers, Hurdles, &c.

DEANE & CO.,

CATALOGUES FREE.

46, King William Street,

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PEPPER'S QUININE and IRON TONIC
 Purifies and Enriches the Blood.

PEPPER'S QUININE and IRON TONIC
 Strengthens the Nerves and Muscular System.

PEPPER'S QUININE and IRON TONIC
 Promotes Appetite and Improves Digestion.

PEPPER'S QUININE and IRON TONIC
 in Scrofula, Wasting Diseases, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Indigestion, Flatulence, Weakness of the Chest, and Respiratory Organs, Ague, Fevers of all kinds.

PEPPER'S QUININE and IRON TONIC
 thoroughly Recruits General Bodily Health and induces a proper healthy condition of the Nervous and Physical Forces.
 Is sold by Chemists everywhere, in capsuled bottles, 4s. 6d., next size 11s., and in stone jars 22s. each.

CRACROFT'S ARECA NUT TOOTH PASTE.
 By using this delicious Aromatic Dentifrice, the enamel of the teeth becomes white, sound, and polished like ivory. It is exceedingly fragrant, and especially useful for removing incrustations of tartar on neglected teeth. Sold by all Chemists. Pots, 1s. and 2s. 6d. each. (Get Cracroft's.)

LOCKYER'S SULPHUR HAIR RESTORER
 will completely restore in a few days grey hair to its original colour without injury. It effects its object satisfactorily, producing a perfectly natural colour; thoroughly cleanses the head from scurf, and causes the growth of new hair. Sold everywhere by Chemists and Hairdressers in large bottles at 1s. 6d. each.

LOCKYER'S SULPHUR HAIR RESTORER.
 —For restoring the colour of the hair.

TARAXACUM and PODOPHYLLIN.—A fluid combination for Derangement of the Liver, particularly when arising from slight congestion. By gently stimulating the action of the liver and slightly moving the bowels, the heavy, drowsy feeling, with sensations of fullness, often headache, pain beneath the shoulders, at the chest after eating, unpleasant taste in the mouth, and other indications of dyspepsia are removed. Taraxacum and Podophyllin is much safer than calomel or blue pill for removing bile.—Prepared in the Laboratory of J. PEPPER, 237, Tottenham Court road, London, whose name must be on the label. Bottles 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d. each. Sold by all Chemists.

DR. ROOKE'S ORIENTAL PILLS AND SOLAR ELIXIR.

These well-known family medicines have had a continually increasing sale throughout the United Kingdom and the British Colonies since their first introduction in 1836, and are especially noted for their strengthening and restorative properties. Hence their invariable success in the relief and cure of Indigestion, Liver Complaints, Asthma and Bronchitis, Pulmonary Consumption, Rheumatism, Gout, Scrofula, General Debility, and all Diseases of the Nervous System, whether arising from sedentary mode of life, unhealthy occupation, insalubrious climate, or other cause whatsoever. The Oriental Pills are sold in boxes at 1s. 1½d. and 4s. 6d. each. The Solar Elixir in bottles at 4s. 6d. and 11s. each. Both to be obtained of all Chemists.

"DR. ROOKE'S ANTI-LANCET."

All who wish to preserve health and thus prolong life should read Dr. Rooke's "Anti-Lancet," or "Handy Guide to Domestic Medicine," which can be had gratis from any chemist, or post free from Dr. Rooke, Scarborough. Concerning this book, the late eminent author Sheridan Knowles observed:—"It will be an incalculable boon to every person who can read and think."

CROSBY'S BALSAMIC COUGH ELIXIR.

Opiates, Narcotics, and Squills are too often invoked to give relief in Coughs, Colds, and all Pulmonary Diseases. Instead of such fallacious remedies, which yield momentary relief at the expense of enfeebling the digestive organs, and thus increasing that debility which lies at the root of the malady, modern science points to CROSBY'S BALSAMIC COUGH ELIXIR as the true remedy.

DR. ROOKE'S TESTIMONIAL.

Dr. Rooke, Scarborough, author of the "Anti-Lancet," says:—"I have repeatedly observed how very rapidly and invariably it subdued Cough, Pain, and Irritation of the Chest in cases of Pulmonary Consumption, and I can, with the greatest confidence, recommend it as a most valuable adjunct to an otherwise strengthening treatment for this disease." This medicine, which is free from opium and squills, not only allays the local irritation, but improves digestion and strengthens the constitution. Hence it is used with the most signal success in Asthma, Bronchitis, Consumption, Coughs, Influenza, Night Sweats of Consumption, Quinsy, and all affections of the throat and chest. Sold in bottles at 1s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each, by all respectable chemists, and wholesale by Jas. M. Crosby, Chemist, Scarborough.

* Invalids should read Crosby's Frise Treatise on "Diseases of the Lungs and Air Vessels," a copy of which can be had gratis of all Chemists.

BAPTIST UNION of GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND.

AUTUMNAL SESSION,
OCTOBER 6, 7, 8, and 9, 1879.

President—Rev. GEO. GOULD.

MONDAY, October 6.

Public Reception in the Corporation Galleries of the Pastors and Delegates, by the Friends in Glasgow. The following gentlemen will take part in the proceedings:—Rev. J. C. Brown, President of the Baptist Union of Scotland; Rev. Dr. Douglas, President of Free Church College, Glasgow; Hon. W. Collins, Lord Provost; Rev. Geo. Gould, President, and Rev. F. Trestrail, Vice-President of the Baptist Union; Dr. Chas. Cameron, of the United Presbyterian Synod; David Russell; Dr. Angus, President of Regent's Park College; E. B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D.; Sir Henry Havelock, Bart, V.C., K.C.B.; and Howard Bowser, Esq.

TUESDAY, October 7.

Meetings of the Baptist Missionary Society.—At 7.30 a.m., in North Frederick Street Baptist Chapel, Missionary Sermon to Young Men by the Rev. Henry Platten, of Birmingham. A Collection will be made on behalf of the Baptist Missionary Society. At 10.30 a.m., Public Designation and Valedictory Service in Adelaide Place Chapel. Rev. J. Paterson, D.D., will preside. The Rev. J. Stubbs, J. Ewen, and T. R. Edwards, will be set apart for work in India; and Rev. D. Lyall for work in West Africa; and leave will be taken of these brethren, also of Rev. Geo. Kerry, returning to India, and Rev. R. E. Gammon, returning to Puerto Plata, San Domingo. E. B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D., will describe the various fields of labour to be occupied by these brethren; Rev. John Aldis will deliver an Address, and Rev. C. M. Birrell will offer prayer on their behalf. At 7.30 p.m., Public Missionary Meeting in St. Andrew's Hall, when J. A. Campbell, Esq., LL.D., of Stracatho, will preside. The General Secretary, Mr. Baynes, will present an interim Report, and Addresses will be delivered by the Chairman, Revs. Dr. Somerville, of the Free Church of Scotland; H. Stowell Brown, of Liverpool; Richard Glover, of Bristol; and Alfred Saker, for thirty-seven years Missionary on the West Coast of Africa; J. S. Wright, Esq., J.P., of Birmingham; and William Digby, Esq., C.I.E., late of Madras. A Collection will be made on behalf of the Baptist Missionary Society and General Baptist Missionary Society.

WEDNESDAY, October 8.

At 7.30 a.m., Prayer Meeting.—At 11 a.m., Session, Adelaide-place Church. President's Address. Reports of Home and Irish Mission and of Special Evangelistic Services.—At 3.30, Rev. C. H. Spurgeon will preach in St. Andrew's Hall.—At 6.30 p.m., Adjourned Session, in Cambridge-street Church, for receiving Reports of the Annuity and Augmentation Funds and of the Educational Board, and for the Election of Committee.

Sermons will be preached in various churches by the Revs. A. G. Brown, J. P. Chown, and W. Cuff, of London; E. G. Gange, of Bristol; J. M. Stephens, M.A., of Newcastle-on-Tyne; and Jas. Owen, of Swansea.

THURSDAY, October 9.

At 7.30 a.m., Sermon in Hope Street Free Gaelic Church to Christian Workers, by W. P. Lockhart, Esq., of Liverpool.—At 11 a.m., Session in Adelaide-place Church. Paper by Rev. W. Medley, M.A., Classical Tutor of Rawdon College, on "Our attitude in regard to the prevalent unsettlement of Religious Opinion and Belief."—At 7.30 p.m., Public Meeting in St. Andrew's Hall. Hugh Rose, Esq. (Edinburgh), will preside, and the Revs. J. T. Brown, of Northampton; J. G. Greenhough, M.A., of Leicester; Dr. Landels, of Regent's-park, London; and Dr. Willis, Q.C., will speak.

*. This programme is subject to slight alterations.

CONGREGATIONAL TEMPERANCE SUNDAY. CONGREGATIONAL TOTAL ABSTINENCE ASSOCIATION.

President—EDWARD BAINES, Esq.
Treasurer—SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., M.P.

The Council earnestly commends to the pastors throughout the land the following recommendation of the Congregational Union of England and Wales on May 8, 1877:—
"That all Congregational Ministers, in addition to their ordinary pastoral ministrations on the subject, preach annually on a given day, say the SECOND SUNDAY in NOVEMBER, a Sermon on the sin of intemperance."

The Council would esteem it a favour if those who accede to the recommendation would notify the fact, or forward any other information as regards temperance work in connection with their churches, to the Hon. Secs.,

GEO. M. MURPHY, 8, Finchley Road, London, S.E.
G. B. SOWERBY, Jun., 45, Great Russell St., W.C.

MEMORY EXTRAORDINARY BY CORRESPONDENCE.—Particulars post free of Mr. W. M. STOKES, Teacher of Memory, Royal Polytechnic, 309, Regent-street, London, W. Class on Tuesdays, 3 and 8.30. "Stokes on Memory," by post, fourteen stamps. Memory Globe, 14 stamps.

THE BRITISH WORKMAN'S ASSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

CHIEF OFFICES:
BROAD STREET CORNER,
BIRMINGHAM.

Extract from the Accounts for the Year ending
April 30th, 1879.

Notwithstanding the depression of the past year, there was an increase in the receipts over the previous year of about £7,000, the total increase being £40,756 19s. 10d. The amount paid in claims during the year was £13,319 18s. 2d., including £746 13s. 2d. Surrender Claims, making the total amount paid up to that date £51,776 3s. 3d., including £2,866 5s. 9d. paid in Surrender Claims.

After meeting all the expenses of the year, the Directors were enabled to carry forward a balance of £4,109 4s. 5d., making the total amount of funds at the close of the year £15,161 1s. 11d.

The number of Proposals received during the year was 69,492; the annual premium thereon is £31,924 14s. 3d. The number of Policies issued was 55,900; annual premium thereon, £24,925 7s. 3d.

After deducting lapses, deaths, &c., the number of Policies in force on the 30th day of April, 1879, was 107,639, and the annual premium thereon, £47,789 17s. 9d.

Taking these facts in connection with the very encouraging and satisfactory report of Mr. Woolhouse, the Actuary, they cannot fail to give entire satisfaction as to the position of the Company. Thousands can bear witness to the Company's prompt and liberal manner in settling just and proper claims. Sums of £50 and under are paid at once upon satisfactory proof.

H. PORT,
Manager.

STAR LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. ESTABLISHED 1843.

DIRECTORS.
Chairman—Mr. Alderman M'ARTHUR, M.P.
Deputy Chairman—WILLIAM MEWBURN, Esq.
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J. B. Ingle, Esq. Jonathan S. Pidgeon, Esq.
George Lidgett, Esq. Rev. J. A. Spurgeon.
Sir Francis Lycett. John Vanner, Esq.
S. D. Waddy, Esq., Q.C., M.P.

Assurance and Annuity Fund... £1,599,212 14 2
Annual Income 277,115 0 0

Every description of Life Assurance Business is transacted by the Society at moderate rates.
W. W. BAYNES, Secretary.
32, Moorgate-street, London.

MUTUAL ASSURANCE WITHOUT MUTUAL LIABILITY.

BRITISH EQUITABLE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—Office: 4, Queen Street Place, London, E.C.
TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT (MAY, 1879.)

NEW BUSINESS.

2,175 policies issued for..... £456,450
New annual premium income..... 13,099

BUSINESS IN FORCE.

24,283 policies in force for..... £4,437,034
Annual premium income..... 133,446

DEATH CLAIMS, &c.

Death claims, including matured policies and bonuses paid in year £53,759
From commencement paid for claims 485,534

ACCUMULATED FUND.

Added in the year..... £80,689
Increasing the fund to..... 624,446

Average Reversionary Bonus for 24 years, ONE-AND-A-QUARTER per Cent. per Annum.
Policies payable in lifetime. Separate use Policies.
Non-forfeiture Policies by Limited Payments.
Assurances effected in the Mutual Department during 1879 participate in Ninth Division of Profits, and rank for Two Years' Bonus therein.

THE GOVERNMENTS STOCK INVESTMENT COMPANY (Limited). Established 1872.

Paid-up Capital..... £500,000.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

5½ per Cent. for Five Years and upwards.
5 per Cent. for ONE Year and upwards.
Less than One Year according to Bank rates.

Deposit Notes issued under the Seal of the Company, with cheques or coupons attached for half-yearly interest.
SECURITY TO DEPOSITORS.—The Securities in which their moneys are invested and the additional guarantee of the Paid-up Capital.

Prospectuses and full information obtainable at the Office 52, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

A. W. RAY, Manager.

Accidents Occur Daily!!

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS
Provided against by a Policy of the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE COMPANY,

The Oldest and Largest Accidental Assurance Company.

The Right Hon. LORD KINNAIRD, Chairman.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £1,000,000.
Annual Income, £214,000.

A fixed sum in case of Death by Accident, and a Weekly Allowance in the event of Injury, may be secured at moderate Premiums.

Bonus allowed to insurers of five years' standing.
£1,350,000 have been paid as Compensation.
Apply to the Clerks at the Railway Stations, the Local Agents, or

64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

W. TARN & CO.

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BONNETS.
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The GOODS are MANUFACTURED on the PREMISES, under the supervision of thoroughly qualified Assistants. EXPERIENCED DRESS-MAKERS and FITTERS always in attendance, and convenient Private Fitting Rooms provided.

Orders to any extent carried out with promptness, combined with moderate charges.

Country orders accompanied by a remittance, will receive prompt attention.

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Published by W. B. WILLCOX, at No. 18, Boulevard Street, London; and Printed by R. K. BUNT and Co., Wine Office Court, Fleet Street, London.—Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1879.